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Conference Link



<https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

15th December 2022

Inaugural

9:00 AM Italy / 1:30 PM India to 10:00 AM Italy / 2:30 PM India

Link: <https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

Inaugural Lecture

Prof. Dr. Francesco Ramella

Director of the Department of Cultures, Politics and Society, University of Turin

Keynote Lecture

Tirtha Prasad Mukhopadhyay

Chief Editor, Rupkatha Journal

Moderator

Dr. Sonia Bertolini

Department of Cultures, Politics and Society, University of Turin

15th December 2022

10:00 AM Italy / 2:30 PM India to 11:00 AM Italy / 3:30 PM India

PANEL A**Crises in Asia / South-East Asia**

Moderator: Dr. John Baker

Link: <https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

<p>Women in Disasters: Unfolding the Struggles of Displaced Mothers in Talisay, Batangas during the Taal Volcano Eruption and Pandemic</p>	<p>Jeffrey Rosario Ancheta¹ & George Vincent Gamayo²</p> <p>¹Faculty Researcher and Assistant Professor & ²Communication Management Officer and Assistant Professor,</p> <p>Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Manila, Philippines.</p>
<p>We Are Cancelled: Exploring Victims' Experiences of Cancel Culture in Social Media</p>	<p>Joseph Leonard A. Jusay, Jeremiah Armelin S. Lababit, Lemuel Oliver M. Moralina & Jeffrey Rosario Ancheta</p> <p>Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Manila, Philippines</p>
<p>Battling Against Environmental Crisis: Children in Action</p>	<p>Zhang Shengzhen¹ & Si Yuanyuan²</p> <p>¹Professor & ²PhD Scholar, English Department, Beijing Language and Culture University, P.R. China</p>
<p>Mapping Caste Violence in the Domestic Front: Representation of the Caste Questions in Contemporary Malayalam Cinema</p>	<p>Dr. V.K. Karthika</p> <p>Assistant Professor</p> <p>Department of Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli (NIT Trichy)</p>

PANEL A: Presentation 1**WOMEN IN DISASTERS: UNFOLDING THE STRUGGLES OF DISPLACED MOTHERS IN TALISAY, BATANGAS DURING THE TAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION AND PANDEMIC**Jeffrey Rosario Ancheta¹ & George Vincent Gamayo²

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Abstract

Disasters transpire globally, but their impacts are often more severe on socially and economically marginalized sectors like women. This is one of the main justifications behind the 2010 Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, which promotes gender equality and inclusivity in all strategies to combat the adverse effects of natural disasters. However, gender-based discrimination during disasters is still prevalent in local communities of the Philippines. Thus, this study attempts to unfold the struggles of displaced mothers in Talisay, Batangas, because of the Taal Volcano's eruption in January 2020 and worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic that began in March 2020. Specifically, this study identifies the direct impacts that impede survivors' capacity to recover from the disruptions brought about by the aforementioned catastrophes. Findings, through mothers' narratives, show six (6) key themes that reveal insecurity on livelihood, shelter, education of their children, food, health and nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). This only proves that displaced mothers face socio-economic issues aggravated by the changing climate that the local government of Talisay needs to address towards a gender-inclusive DRRM.

Keywords: *Women, disaster, struggle, displaced mother, volcanic eruption, pandemic*

PANEL A: Presentation 2**WE ARE CANCELLED: EXPLORING VICTIMS' EXPERIENCES OF CANCEL CULTURE IN SOCIAL MEDIA**

Joseph Leonard A. Jusay, Jeremiah Armelin S. Lababit, Lemuel Oliver M. Moralina & J.R. Ancheta

Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Manila, Philippines

Abstract

The continuous advancement of modern technology enables its users to engage in various interactions in the online public sphere, including conversations about multiple ideas and perspectives. It has now played a significant role in our modern society, paving the door for several participatory cultures and social movements such as the so-called cancel culture. Even if this movement aims to call out individuals or businesses, it has undoubtedly encouraged mob mentality and damaged civil dialogue, ultimately driving them out of the community. Thus, this study looked at the diverse experiences of victims of cancel culture and how it influenced their social and personal lives. This study reveals that the victims suffered a backlash, public humiliation, and cyberbullying that harmed their mental health. This study has established that cancel culture is an example of online abuse and has become more commonplace in the online public realm, rendering social media sites less of a safe haven.

Keywords: Cancel culture, social media, mental health, cyberbullying, public humiliation

PANEL A: Presentation 3

BATTLING AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS: CHILDREN IN ACTION

Zhang Shengzhen¹ & Si Yuanyuan²

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Abstract

With its historical privilege of the relationship between children and nature, children's literature has long attended to ecological problems, often in concert with its attendant social problems. In a century of stories, from *The Secret Garden* (1911) to *The Wizard of Earthsea* (1968), *The Iron Man* (1968), *The Iron Woman* (1993), and *The Marrow Thieves* (2017), children's authors have been demonstrating how children, prefiguring actual child activists such as Greta Thunberg, can lead the way towards solutions. Whether in literature or real life, it seems that it is the children who understand the urgency of environmental crises and can bring about responses. Children activists, such as Lucy, Hogarth, Frenchie and his companions, take decisive action in saving nature and the human world. Font Gadugi, size 10, justified, spacing before and after zero, use italics only if necessary.

Keywords: Environmental Crises, Environmental Activism, Children's Literature, Children Activists.

PANEL A: Presentation 4

Mapping Caste Violence in the Domestic Front: Representation of the Caste Questions in Contemporary Malayalam Cinema

Dr. V.K. Karthika

Assistant Professor

National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli (NIT Trichy)

Abstract

Conservative modes of representations of the dalit lives and the caste questions in Malayalam cinema used to adhere to the stereotypical portrayal of caste-based violence as a tool to evoke pity, fear or laughter. However, recent movies emphasise the revolt of the subaltern both in personal and public domains of discourse. This paper attempts to analyse two recent Malayalam films, *Puzhu* (the Worm) and *Malayankunju* (The Malaya Child) released in 2022 that blatantly deal with caste-based violence operational in the domestic sphere. The critique is based on two major questions: how does caste identity and caste-based violence function in the domestic interiors and in what ways do the dominant patriarchal discourses complicate the subjective positioning of women within and outside the household. The study identifies various elements that contribute to the construction of subjectivity of the dalit and discusses the issues embedded in caste pride leading to catastrophe at the home-front through ostracization and excision (either through murder or through mutilation) processes of those ones who do not conform to the dictated norms of casteists. Victims of caste-based violence whether literal or metaphorical, physical or emotional are the females in these households though the perpetrators themselves partake as catalysts in their own catastrophe.

15th December 2022

11:00 AM Italy / 3:30 PM India to 12:00 PM Italy / 4:30 PM India

PANEL B***Insecurity and Anxiety***

Moderator: Dr. Tanu Gupta

Link: <https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

Insecurity and Anxiety in Northeast Nigeria and Boko Haram Agenda Conspiracy Theories: Lake Chad Basin's Oil and Water Polemics	Felicia C. Abada ¹ , Mary-Isabella A. Chidi-Igbokwe ² , Chinedu Ejezie ³ & Emeka Aniago ⁴
Psychological Trauma and Socio-Economic Burden of Girl-Child Marriage in Nigeria: Stephanie Linus' 'Dry' as a Filmic Advocac	Mary-Isabella A. Chidi-Igbokwe ¹ , Cindy A. Ezeugwu ² , Alphonsus C. Ugwu ³ , & Emeka Aniago ⁴
Influences of Social Integrative Factors on Perception of Suicide among University Students in Southeast Nigeria	Dr. Ngozi Udengwu, Department of Theatre and Film Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka,

PANEL B: Presentation 1**INSECURITY AND ANXIETY IN NORTHEAST NIGERIA AND BOKO HARAM AGENDA CONSPIRACY THEORIES: LAKE CHAD BASIN'S OIL AND WATER POLEMICS**Felicia C. Abada¹, Mary-Isabella A. Chidi-Igbokwe², Chinedu Ejezie³ & Emeka Aniago⁴¹Social Science Units, School of General Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka²Theatre & Film Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka³Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka⁴Theatre & Film Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, NigeriaEmail: emekaaniago@gmail.com**Abstract**

In Nigeria and other nations with their territory being part of the Lake Chad Basin, anxiety is high and growing because Boko Haram's "strident messages exacerbate intra-Muslim tensions and worsen Muslim-Christian relations in the region" (Thurston 2016: 5). In addition, because the agenda of Boko Haram appear jumbled and its sponsors indistinct, curiosity has led to conceptualization of theories aimed at providing illumination. The study interpretively discusses how insecurity and anxieties in northeast Nigeria resulting

from Boko Haram's insurgency propels articulation of several conspiracy theories explaining Boko Haram's emergence, evolution and agenda, and the areas where there are lack of consensus. The study classifies the theories into three categories, namely, the 'Freedom Fighter and Soldiers of Faith', 'Proxy Political tool', and 'Islamic Caliphate Quest' theories, and examines their suppositions and arguments to highlight the degree of plausibility. Substantially, the study expands the 'Islamic Caliphate Quest' theory to include the place of 'oil' and 'water' as likely variables that illuminate on other trajectories.

Keywords: anxiety, Boko Haram, conspiracy theories, Lake Chad basin, oil, water

PANEL B: Presentation 2

Psychological Trauma and Socio-Economic Burden of Girl-Child Marriage in Nigeria: Stephanie Linus' 'Dry' as a Filmic Advocacy

Mary-Isabella A. Chidi-Igbokwe¹, Cindy A. Ezeugwu², Alphonsus C. Ugwu³, & Emeka Aniago⁴

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Abstract

The need to proffer solutions to the consequences of girl-child forced marriages in Nigeria have continued to draw scholarly attention within the ambits of sociology, history, law and human-right, women and gender studies, health, and psychology studies. However, studies examining the application of Nollywood films as advocacy texts in this regard are scarce. In response to this gap, this study examines interpretively Stephanie Linus' 'Dry' as a filmic advocacy text, portraying the psychological trauma and the socio-economic burden of girl-child marriages in northern Nigeria. our interpretive analyses utilizes theories espousing how denial of childhood can become traumatic to the child-wives and eventually become a socio-economic burden to her family, community, and country. The key observation is that 'Dry' typifies a proper and efficacious utilization of film as an advocacy platform to interrogate and communicate matters relating to health and wellbeing revolving around girl-child forced marriages.

Keywords: child-marriage, filmic advocacy, girl-child right, northern Nigeria, trauma

PANEL B: Presentation 3

Influences of Social Integrative Factors on Perception of Suicide among University Students in Southeast Nigeria

Dr. Ngozi Udengwu, Department of Theatre and Film Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Abstract

The study interrogated university students' perception of suicide in a social system where self-murder is seen as a taboo yet constantly on the increase. Given the difficulty expressed in studies on detecting risky behaviour, we focused on the influences of social factors on perception of the normality and preventability

of suicide. We administered a 47-item questionnaire on 490 students of five universities in Southeast Nigeria. Frequencies, percentages, bivariate Pearson's correlation coefficient and multivariable binary logistic regression were used for data analysis. We found a significant positive but weak relationship between perception of the normality of suicide and perception of preventability of suicide. The majority of students did not express personal nearness to suicide, but ironically acknowledged a rather 'normal' high prevalence of risk factors such as depression. Place of residence, being seen as deeply religious and class of study had significant impact on perception of the normality and preventability of suicide. We discussed the implications of our findings to social integration among students.

Keywords: Suicide, university, students, perception, risk factors

15th December 2022

12:00 PM Italy / 4:30 PM India to 1:10 PM Italy / 5:40 PM India

PANEL C

Coping with War in the World

Moderator Dr. John Baker

Link: <https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

The Artistic Narrative in Times of War: <i>NENKA</i> project of Ukrainian visual artist	Natalia Gurieva, PhD & Manuel Reyes Espino University of Guanajuato, Mexico
THE PHENOMENON OF SOCIAL INVISIBILITY OF CERTAIN UKRAINIAN CITIZENS CATEGORIES DURING CRISIS PERIODS	Oksana Zhuravska & Olena Rosinska Associate Professors, Dept. of Journalism, Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University, Ukraine
WORKSHOP KATARINA	
Formation of emotional security of students during the period training in conditions of military conflict	Oleksii Petrovich Orlov, PhD Assistant of World literature Department, V. G. Korolenko Poltava National University, Ukraine

PANEL C: Presentation 1

The Artistic Narrative in Times of War: *NENKA* project of Ukrainian visual artists

Natalia Gurieva, University of Guanajuato, Carretera Salamanca - Valle de

Abstract

Art is deeply linked and contributes to the fundamental axes of culture, that is, norms and standards of behaviour, national traditions, principles of life and value systems. During periods of social crisis, art is one

of the most vulnerable components, but at the same time a powerful catalyst for creative processes, as well as an expressive vehicle for a critical view of the current situation. Particularly in times of war, artistic expression is presented with a powerful life-giving potential and allows to accurately express the enormous emotional tension of people, whose lives have been disrupted by death, pain, and destruction. This is the case of Ukrainian artists who, through visual exploration, build a complex narrative that seeks to interpret and express the pain and hope of what happened in their native country and which, since 2014, has been experiencing the ravages of war.

Keywords: Ukraine, Artist community, Contemporary image, Art to highlight Ukraine War.

PANEL C: Presentation 2

THE PHENOMENON OF SOCIAL INVISIBILITY OF CERTAIN UKRAINIAN CITIZENS CATEGORIES DURING CRISIS PERIODS

Oksana Zhuravska, Olena Rosinska

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Abstract

Social invisibility is a complicated psychological and social phenomenon reflected on particular strategies of the society's attitude to individual groups, their marginalization or "invisibility", which is especially noticeable in the periods of crises. Ukraine has experienced revolutions, a partial territorial occupation, a pandemic and a large-scale invasion since 2013. The crises of these years influenced the society's life, its readiness or unreadiness to tolerate particular social issues. The analysis of the tendency in covering the issues concerning the LGBT community in the Ukrainian online media of *Ukrayinska Pravda (UP)*, *Gazeta.ua (G)*, *Obozrevatel.com (Ob)* during 2010 – the first part of 2022 based on statistical and content-analysis of publications gives a chance to prove that.

The research findings demonstrated that, in general, publication activities of the media do not demonstrate tendencies to increased amount of media content devoted to the problems of the LGBT community. The thematic range of publications is also relatively limited, its core is the issues of the Equality March organization and holding, social reaction to this event, world's news and activity of local politicians.

The serious analytical publications concerning the problems of the LGBT-community are at the periphery of the themes. Stories of the LGBT-community representatives, including media persons who demonstrate positive examples of social adaptation, an issue of gender-based tolerance in the society, etc., remain beyond the attention of the editorial staff, observation of human rights, issues of the queer culture. The reasons for such situation can relate to the editorial staff's policy and influence on formation of the narrative in the country concerning the rights of the LGBT-community representatives.

The research of other top-rated media publications is also prospective not only with regard to quantity and themes, but also quality; in particular, compliance with journalist standards and ethical norms by the authors.

That will allow reception of a more complete picture concerning the representativeness of the LGBT community's problems in the media environment of the country and the specification of the indicators influencing their formation, as well as understanding mechanisms of social invisibility in media.

Keywords: LGBT, gender, media studies, social invisibility.

PANEL C : Workshop Presentation (3)

ENGIN: A Scalable Model for Achieving English Fluency in Ukraine

Katerina Seminda Manoff Engin

katerina@enginprogram.org

This workshop will present an innovative volunteer-driven model for supporting students' language learning and socioemotional needs in a conflict zone. ENGIN is a grassroots 501(c)3 nonprofit that has paired over 10,000 Ukrainian youth with English-speaking volunteers for free online conversation practice and cross-cultural connection. Our unique model has empowered English speakers with no special skills or training to change young Ukrainians' lives without leaving home.

Access is a key principle at ENGIN. Most educational institutions charge fees and pride themselves on their exclusivity, while most free learning experiences eliminate the human factor; ENGIN is providing human-centered, quality education for all.

Our program, launched in March 2020, is the only one of its kind in Ukraine - open to anyone, anywhere, at any time, for as long as they need it. It complements humanitarian aid efforts by giving Ukrainians the skills they need to support themselves in the longer term. Over half of Ukrainians have lost their jobs due to the war; millions have been forced to flee the country. For an average cost of just \$20/student, ENGIN helps open doors to new job opportunities (including remote roles for those still in Ukraine), fill in gaps in education when schools are forced to close, and ease the resettlement process for refugees. As we empower each of our students to rebuild their life, we're also creating a generation of English-fluent, culturally competent Ukrainians ready to rebuild their nation.

While our team is focused on Ukraine, nearly a dozen other organizations have adapted our model to set up similar programs, reaching thousands of students across the world.

PANEL C : Presentation 4

Formation of emotional security of students during the period training in conditions of military conflict

Oleksii Petrovich Orlov

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V. G. Korolenko Poltava National University, Ukraine

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Abstract

Ukrainian teachers and students are now in an extreme situation of military conflict when the territory of the country is under constant air fire, and the line of hostilities stretches for 1500 kilometers. The purpose of the article is to analyze the extreme learning conditions of Ukrainian students and develop a strategy for optimal emotional relaxation by selecting fiction for reading and deepening artistic perception. Respondents' data (120 students and 53 pupils) were collected, systematized, evaluated, and analyzed using systematic written surveys (Project Tuning methodology) and statistical analysis methods. Testing corresponded to three stages of conflict development: conflict deployment, escalation, and post-conflict

phase. Pedagogical activity mirrors this parable but in the opposite direction. Fiction thematically and genre-wise at each stage plays the role of a protective shield, which draws the line between students' own emotions and the feelings of literary heroes. Perception of artistic texts was aimed at 1) identifying visual, auditory, and tactile associations; 2) olfactory sensations; 3) the ability to build associative chains; 4) imagining literary heroes; 5) emotionally immersing yourself in the world of fiction. Comparison of one's own emotional perceptions with those that caused anti-utopian works and fantasy literature prove the effectiveness of the chosen pedagogical hypothesis.

Keywords: extreme pedagogy, conflictology, an emotional parable of perception, artistic perception of literature, association.

16th December 2022

9:00 AM Italy / 1:30 PM India to 11:00 AM Italy / 3:30 PM India

PANEL D

Literature's Reflection of Human Crises

Moderator: Prof. Swayam Prabha

Link: <https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

<p>Narratives of Plague in Arab Societies Through the Lens of Select Western Travelers (Panel)</p>	<p>Dr. Mashhoor Main Researcher, Department of English, College of Arts, University of Bisha, Saudi Arabia email: mamohammad@ub.edu.sa</p>
<p>'Healing the World with Comedy': Anxiety and Sublimation in Bo Burnham's Inside</p>	<p>Ann Christina Pereira¹ & Dr Sarika Tyagi² ¹Research scholar & ²Professor, Vellore Institute of Technology-Vellore. ann.pereira9213@gmail.com</p>
<p>Spectres of Caste/Contagion: Death Anxiety and Caste Anxiety in U.R. Ananthamurthy's Samskara</p>	<p>G. Thiyagaraj¹ and Binod Mishra² ¹Research Scholar & ²Professor, IIT Roorkee g._t@hs.iitr.ac.in</p>
<p>Memory, Trauma and Affect: The Implicated Subject in Anuk Arudpragasam's <i>A Passage North</i></p>	<p>Atri Majumder¹ & Dr. Gyanabati Khurajam² ¹Research Scholar & ²Assistant Professor Dept. of Management, Humanities and Social Sciences National Institute of Technology Agartala, India atri.cal@gmail.com</p>

<p>From Tattered Past to Triumphant Present: Weaving Partitioned Lives by a Dalit Girl-child in Kalyani Thakur Charal's Novella <i>Andhar Bil O Kicchu Manush</i></p>	<p>ATREYEE SINHA¹ & Dr. Shuchi² 1Research Scholar & 2Assistant Professor, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology, Mizoram atreeye.literature@gmail.com</p>
<p>Crises and Community Construction in Post-Epidemic Era: Posthumanist Survival in Margaret Atwood's MaddAddam Trilogy</p>	<p>Lingfei Li Ph.D. candidate of English and Comparative Literature, English Department, Beihang University, Beijing, China</p>

PANEL D: Panel Presentation 1

Narratives of Plague in Arab Societies Through the Lens of Select Western Travelers

Mashhoor Abdu Al-Moghales et al

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Abstract

To examine the narratives of plagues in Arab societies, the paper, along with the postcolonial perspectives, uses the concepts like 'empathy' or 'detached concern' to bring fresh and new understanding of the travel texts. It selected John Antes' Observations on the Manners and Customs of the Egyptians, the Overflowing of the Nile and its Effects (1800) and Richard F. Burton's Personal Narrative of a Pilgrimage to El-Medinah and Meccah (1857) for the study. The paper analyses their narratives to understand their approaches in describing the 'native' Arab societies. The key findings show that while Burton tends to construct the people and their culture as 'the Other' although his mode of presentation tends to follow a mode of 'detached concern', Antes is, on the other hand, more objective but stood by the plague-infected people in empathy. The findings show that these Western travellers considered the concept of predestination, lack of quarantine, lack of sanitation, mass gatherings during the plague, and the unscientific local treatments as the root causes of the spread of the plagues among the 'natives'.

Keywords: Plague, Orientalism, Travelogues, Arab Land, Empathy, detached concern

PANEL D: Presentation 1

'HEALING THE WORLD WITH COMEDY': ANXIETY AND SUBLIMATION IN BO BURNHAM'S INSIDE

Ann Christina Pereira & Dr Sarika Tyagi

Research scholar, Department of English, Vellore Institute of Technology-Vellore. ORCID: 0000-0002-2555-4910. ann.pereira9213@gmail.com;

Professor, Department of English, Vellore Institute of Technology-Vellore. ORCID: 0000-0001-5144-9981. tyagisarika27@gmail.com

Abstract

Bo Burnham is critically acclaimed American stand-up comedian and filmmaker. The usual themes in his works are the hypocrisy of artists, the commercialisation of art, and the role of social media in erasing the boundary between the public and the private. However, during the pandemic, he chose to focus on the theme of anxiety, a minor theme in his earlier works. Anxiety has been considered as an integral part of modernity as discussed by Anthony Giddens and Zygmunt Bauman. In psychoanalysis, anxiety has been explained in a number of different ways. In current psychological discourse, anxiety is described as an unpleasant state of mind that can cause significant bodily and mental stress. This anxiety that Burnham experienced prior to the pandemic appears to have amplified during the pandemic. Two main types of anxiety are observable in the shows of Burnham—performance anxiety and existential anxiety. We seek to understand Burnham’s show *Inside* (2021) using Anna Segal’s contribution to the concept of ‘sublimation’. We argue that in doing the show *Inside*, Burnham discovers a new way to acknowledge and channel his ‘depressive’ symptoms towards contemporary times, and he achieves sublimation in the process.

Keywords: Comedy, sublimation, anxiety, existential anxiety, modernity

PANEL D: Presentation 2

Spectres of Caste/Contagion: Death Anxiety and Caste Anxiety in U.R. Ananthamurthy’s *Samskara*

G. Thiyagaraj¹ and Binod Mishra²

¹ Research Scholar at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Roorkee.

² Professor at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Roorkee.

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Abstract

The article critiques the traversal politics of caste and contagion through a critical dissection of what comes as a primarily biomedical excess of the outbreak—the dead body. It elucidates upon the becoming of the dead body into an untouchable where its “right to die with dignity” is deferred. The article reasons this stigmatisation of the deceased as a result of anxiety ensued in the living population facing the outbreak crisis. Through a close reading of U.R. Ananthamurthy’s novel *Samskara* (1965), the article elaborates on the othering discourse of outbreaks and discusses the type of socio-immune response exhibited by a casteist body politic. The novel centres its narrative around a plague-stricken Brahmin community where the contested dead body of pestilence triggers an endless debate of humanistic morals and ethics. By equipping the Derridean lens of hauntology, the article reads *Samskara* as an outbreak narrative which informs about the social unpreparedness and indecisiveness expressed by caste groups. The article discusses two types of anxieties expressed in such a caste-based society, namely death anxiety and caste anxiety. It mediates how these anxieties are produced in inversion, creating a unique pattern of social instability and inertia with relevance to the socio-political discourse of India. The epiphenomenon of inverted anxieties in India is presented as a subverted narrative from the global patterns of anxiety charged by microbial invasions. Finally, the article discusses how the dead regains spectral agency in order to reveal the social pathology of a community doubly infected with caste and contagion.

Keywords: Dead body, Contagion, Caste, Anxiety, Spectres and Outbreaks.

PANEL D: Presentation 3

Memory, Trauma and Affect: The Implicated Subject in Anuk Arudpragasam's *A Passage North*

Atri Majumder

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Dr. Gyanabati Khuraijam

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Abstract

In *A Passage North*, Anuk Arudpragasam invades the consciousness of the protagonist to reveal the subliminal enmeshed spaces of the personal and the political. The distance between the traumatic events of the Sri Lankan civil war and the alienated individual who has apparently remained aloof, is obliterated through the refracted memories that have embedded the subject in the matrix of his country's political history. The individual memory thus coalesces into the fabric of collective memory as the narrative unfolds. The concatenation of the traumatic realities and the sequestered psyche, untethers the individual from its ensconced private sphere and situates it within the macrocosmic and pervasive sociopolitical structure. The transmutation of subjectivity is attuned to the affective sites of collective trauma. The dichotomy of proximity and distance elucidated by the apprehensive reflections of the survivor is symptomatic of the subterranean intensities that elude corporeal presence and agency. The memories of the individual become resonant with the affective (un)lived experiences of traumatic violence, that deconstruct the tension of presence/absence, and consequently reconfigure the preconceived notions of subjectivity. The theoretical framework of this paper would foreground Michael Rothberg's conceptualization of the *implicated subject*, to limn the trajectory of identities who are indirectly implicated in traumatic legacies. This paper argues that the trauma of the genocidal war and its aftermath is transcribed into affective memories, that bear the potential to reconstitute identity by recognizing and transcending the state of implication.

Keywords: Memory, Affect, Trauma, *Implicated Subject*, Identity, Sri Lankan Civil War

PANEL D: Presentation 4

From Tattered Past to Triumphant Present: Weaving Partitioned Lives by a Dalit Girl-child in Kalyani Thakur Charal's Novella *Andhar Bil O Kicchu Manush*

ATREYEE SINHA

Research Scholar, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology, Mizoram

Abstract

Inherited memory reflects the intensity of the impact of incidents, experienced by the ancestors on the descendants, and in the case of the partition of Bengal, these memories of memories are about both the violence-induced partition and its distressful reverberation, and also about the amiable and delightful past habitation in East Bengal. However, the awful affairs of the survivors steal all the focus of the researcher while pushing the amiable exhibition in the past land to the background. Again, the transportation of memory to the second generation of these refugees assists them to reconstruct as well as to dismantle the eulogised notion of the lost land and look to analyse the past incident in a more pragmatic way that consequently leads to a dichotomous intellection of the two generations as can be found in the novella *Andhar Bil O Kicchu Manush* (Waterbody named Andhar and Some People) by Bengali Dalit writer Kalyani

Thakur Charal. The juvenescence dealing of the postmemory of past times by the progeny of the refugees, more specifically by a Dalit girl in this novella paves a way to further study on the class, caste and gendered space of Dalit women in partitioned Bengal from the perspective of a child. A deductive, analytical and objective method has been used in this research to comprehend the factual local historiography of a particular community of a specific locality of the border region of West Bengal through a fiction based on the collective memory of the populace.

Keywords: postmemory, Bengal, Namasudra, refugee, childhood, second-generation

PANEL D: Presentation 5

CRISES AND COMMUNITY CONSTRUCTION IN POST-EPIDEMIC ERA: POSTHUMANIST SURVIVAL IN MARGARET ATWOOD'S MADDADDAM TRILOGY

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Abstract

Margaret Atwood's *MaddAddam* Trilogy centers around a global pandemic that almost wipes out all humanity. In such a post-catastrophic world, the survivors have to defeat fierce criminals who escaped from the Painball arena and construct a new community with nonhuman beings. This article proposes a posthumanist reading of survival in three novels and redefines the position of humans in the world through the descent of anthropocentrism and the ascent of nonhuman agents. The danger of the pandemic as well as the severity of the environment bring about insecurity and anxiety for human beings, which are exactly the epitome of reality. So, how can we confront the rigorous social crises and anxiety under the current global pandemic? Margaret Atwood has provided us with a paradigm that human beings are supposed to abandon the conquest of nature, insert themselves into a larger framework of cross-species identification, and construct a new community that features a harmonious and respectful coexistence of multiple species. An investigation of survival from the perspective of posthumanism will deepen our understanding of Atwood's opposition to anthropocentrism and awaken common concerns about ecological consciousness in a post-epidemic era.

Keywords: Posthumanism, Margaret Atwood, *MaddAddam* Trilogy, Crisis, Community Construction

16th December 2022

11:00 AM Italy / 3:30 PM India to 12:00 PM Italy / 4:30 PM India

PANEL E

Language Learning

Moderator

Dr. John Baker

Link: <https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

<p>An Investigation into Teacher Preparedness for Emergency Remote Teaching in the Context of Vietnam</p>	<p>Dao Nguyen Anh Duc Ho Chi Minh City University of Banking Email: ducdna@buh.edu.vn</p>
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<p>Assimilation of the Anglo-Saxon System of Education in the Conflicted Ambazonia: Delinking from Colonial Language Ideologies</p>	<p>John Wankah Foncha and Jane-Francis Afungmeyu Abongdia The Cape Peninsula University of Technology fonchaj@cput.ac.za/ Jane-francisa@cput.ac.za</p>
<p>The English Language Limits Me! Connecting Third Space to Curriculum Transformation in a South African University, Expanding Epistemological Landscapes?</p>	<p>Mzukisi Howard Kepe University of Fort Hare, South Africa mkepe@ufh.ac.za</p>
<p>Preparing Students for Post Covid-19 Transnational Study with Unassisted Repeated Reading and Extensive Reading Materials</p>	<p>Ngô, T.T. Vân Binh Duong University, Thu Dau Mot City, Vietnam, nttvn@bdu.edu.vn John R. Baker (corresponding author) Faculty of Foreign Languages, Ton Duc Thang University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, drjohnrbaker@tdtu.edu.vn</p>

PANEL E : Presentation 1

An Investigation into Teacher Preparedness for Emergency Remote

Teaching in the Context of Vietnam

Dao Nguyen Anh Duc

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Abstract

This study examined the preparation English teachers in Vietnam had for Emergency Remote Teaching (ERT) during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, it investigated the levels of confidence teachers had about their pedagogical and technological knowledge. It also looked at their attitudinal readiness and the institutional support offered to them. Ninety-seven teachers of English in the southern areas of the country, which were severely hit by the fourth wave of the pandemic from May to September 2021, were invited to complete an online survey. The responses were analyzed descriptively, and item-level means were calculated to identify teachers' greatest challenges and the instructional aspects they found most confident about during ERT.

Cross tabulations were also employed to compare different groups of teachers' readiness to teach online. The results showed that English teachers in the affected areas perceived themselves to be relatively prepared for the swift transition to online teaching and substantially positive about their pedagogical approach to lesson delivery in the virtual environment. Regarding technological know-how, they exploited various ready-made resources but were unknowledgeable about authoring software and uncertain how to use technological tools effectively. They also reported receiving little support from their superiors and authorities.

Keywords: teacher preparedness, teacher readiness, ERT, pedagogical knowledge, technological knowledge

PANEL E: Presentation 2

Assimilation of the Anglo-Saxon System of Education in the Conflicted Ambazonia: Delinking from Colonial Language Ideologies

John Wankah Foncha and Jane-Francis Afungmeyu Abongdia

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Abstract

Education is a mind builder and should be taken as a matter of importance in any nation. In this note, the curriculum designer is therefore responsible to building the minds of its learners. Seen through this lens, this article intends to project the importance of community schools in the conflict stricken Ambazonia as against the backdrop of French curriculum. An attempt is made to bring out the education guidelines with particular reference to language planning, policy and implementation. This theoretical paper seeks to explain the current situation in Ambazonia, as well as make arguments on the community schools' guidelines which aspire for multilingualism where indigenous languages are taken seriously in teaching and learning. Another point projected in the article is the transitional authority known as Ambazonia Transitional Authority put in place a to deal with the implementation of the education guidelines as well as administrative issues. The paper concludes that what we think must be transformed to what we do and must also be shown by what we have done.

PANEL E: Presentation 3

The English Language Limits Me! Connecting Third Space to Curriculum Transformation in a South African University, Expanding Epistemological Landscapes?

Mzukisi Howard Kepe, University of Fort Hare, South Africa

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Abstract

Many studies have been conducted on conventional colonial heritage; however, less attention examines the developing concept of curriculum decolonisation in South African universities. This paper advocate for a kind of hybrid literacy located between traditional conceptions of academic literacy and instruction for students' sociohistorical lives, both affluent and less affluent. I discuss and illustrate the hegemony of English in high-learning institutions and the post-apartheid mainstream education system. Alongside my previous work in the area, I interrogate the impasse of language policy in high education and South African schools. This paper is an ethnographic study congruent with the interpretivism paradigm, employing the

semi-structured interview for data collection. The third space underpins it as a theoretical framework. It affords the provision and guidance for classroom instruction and autonomous learning modes balance, where the development of new knowledge is heightened allowing students' voices. It is a response to the 2015-2016 student protests on South African university campuses in which many were perplexed on how to respond to the demands of the students to end violent protests against western disciplinary norms that devalue non-centre practices and themes. Biliteracy (Hornberger & Link, 2012), and translanguaging (Lee & Canagarajah, 2018) are empathised as the concepts against ownership of language and culture, its territorialisation, challenging the traditional contrast of 'native' and 'non-native speakers and its connection to a particular nation-state.

Keywords: Biliteracy, Curriculum, Decolonisation, Essentialist view, Hybrid Literacies, Language Policy in Higher Education- South Africa, Third Space, Translanguaging

PANEL E: Presentation 4

Preparing Students for Post Covid-19 Transnational Study with Unassisted Repeated Reading and Extensive Reading Materials

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Abstract

As Covid-restrictions promise to loosen and international borders begin to open, transnational students are again preparing for language education abroad, but, due to students' low reading rates (RRs), target institutions' courses' large reading demands pose potential challenges to students' success. To address this, this study explored the potential of employing an unassisted repeated reading procedure (rate build-up, RBU) to increase prospective transnational students' RR. The study investigated the RBU procedure's potential with this population by comparing the procedure's effects with traditional degree-seeking learners in a Taiwanese university setting and those of potential transnationals targeted for studies at a similar setting. Assessing each group's pre and post-reading gains using inferential statistics, significant reading gains and large Cohen d effect sizes were found for both groups, indicating the generalizability of this procedure. It was further found that students with higher starting RRs demonstrated larger gains. Limitations and suggestions for further research are also addressed.

Keywords: repeated reading, rate build-up reading, transnational students, EFL, replication, audio assisted, unassisted

16th December 2022

12:00 PM Italy / 4:30 PM India to 1:30 PM Italy / 6:00 PM India

PANEL F

Contemporary Demography and Gender Issues

Moderators: Dr. Valentina Goglio & Dr. Daniela Radler

Link: <https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

<p>“Fluid” temporality: the conflict of gender and age in the postmodern socio-cultural context</p>	<p>Tetiana Vlasova, Professor of Philosophy, Associate Professor of English Philology, Head of Translation and Philology Department, Ukrainian State University of Science and Technologies, Dnipro, Ukraine. vasovat2@gmail.com</p>
<p>Afghan Women and the Taliban: Tracing Questions of Legal Rights, Insecurity and Uncertainty in Select Texts vis-à-vis the Current Crisis</p>	<p>¹Dr. Anupama B.N. & ²Payel Dutta Chowdhury ¹Associate Professor, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal ²Professor & Director, REVA University, Bengaluru. payeldutta.c@gmail.com</p>
<p>Gender Equality in the Posters Designed for Covid 19 Prevention</p>	<p>Ani Atsharyan¹, Tatevik Paytyan², Artashes Melikyan³, Ashot Baghdasaryan⁴ ¹Associate Professor, National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia, Yerevan</p>
<p>Plague, Nature, Planetary Future—A Posthumanist Reading of The Scarlet Plague</p>	<p>Xinshuo Zhou¹ and Quan Wang² English Department, Beihang University</p>
<p>Religious Heritage: Reconciliation between spirituality and cultural concerns</p>	<p>Óscar Fernández-Álvarez¹, Miguel González-González², Sara Ouali-Fernández³ Department of Social Anthropology, University of León (Spain)</p>

PANEL F: Presentation 1

“Fluid” temporality: the conflict of gender and age in the postmodern socio-cultural context

Tetiana Vlasova

Abstract

Temporality, being an intrinsic property of the subject/object relations in the multiplicity of the socio-cultural and gender narratives, presents one of the most complicated ideas of postmodernity. The project of temporality embraces ambivalent scripts in their “momentous transition”, revealing the attempts at generalizing ages of men and women in the certain “unified” narratives. The latter is expressed in the triad paradigm of “past-present-future” with “present” as the dominating member. While conceptualizing binary oppositions, namely, the dualism “man/woman”, it is evident that nowadays the biological “intrinsic value” of the human being’s identity has become less relevant. The man/woman’s identity is not fixed anymore by anatomy, at present it is “fluid” with the time and age “shifts” of femininity and masculinity. The decentering “situation”, having transformed the temporal aspects of man/woman’s value in the social practices and

corresponding narratives, nowadays demands their valorizing by means of the conceptual impact on the transformations of the “liquid temporality”.

Keywords: postparadigmatic shifts, temporality concepts, corporal mutations, gender identification.

PANEL F: Presentation 2

AFGHAN WOMEN AND THE TALIBAN: TRACING QUESTIONS OF LEGAL RIGHTS, INSECURITY AND UNCERTAINTY IN SELECT TEXTS VIS-À-VIS THE CURRENT CRISIS

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Abstract:

The status of Afghan women has been a subject of academic interest primarily because of the strict patriarchal hegemony that they have been subjected to. Afghanistan has seen enormous changes in the last four decades due to multiple invasions, wars, and terrorism. 15th August 2021 marks a significant transition in the Afghan socio-political scenario with the Afghan government collapsing as Taliban took over Kabul. The Taliban’s initial public statements after seizing power included assurances on allowing women their rights within the framework of Shari’a Law. Against this backdrop, this paper examines the actual status of Afghan women’s legal rights and security concerns at present after the completion of one year of the Taliban take-over. The study delves into an exploration of the changing dynamics of women’s status in real-life vis-à-vis such portrayals in select literary texts by Khaled Hosseini and Atiq Rahimi to understand how their narrative spaces mirror the socio-political conflicts in Afghanistan. Drawing upon Gender Studies and discourses concerning masculinity and femininity, particularly studies conducted on women and violence, and the UN Women’s reports on gender alert published in December 2021 and August 2022, this paper aims to explore the fictional space in relation to the real-life scenario in Afghanistan.

Keywords: Afghan women, Taliban, Legal Rights, Security, UN Women’s reports

PANEL F: Presentation 3

GENDER EQUALITY IN THE POSTERS DESIGNED FOR COVID 19 PREVENTION

Ani Atsharyan¹, Tatevik Paytyan², Artashes Melikyan³, Ashot Baghdasaryan⁴

^{1,2,3,4}Faculty of Design, National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia, Teryan Street 105, Yerevan, RA.

Abstract

Since Covid-19 irruption in 2020 designers from all over the world started to concentrate their efforts to increase the awareness of population in visual methods and prevent spread of the disease. As the germ itself is invisible for naked eye, graphic designers created iconic visual identity 3D image of a particle, which became widespread inspiration for the future propaganda and informational posters. Furthermore, the visualisation of the virus particle was not enough to influence wide scopes of people, thus the new problem

for designers became to make such posters that can reveal virus vs human “relations”, taking into account gender characteristics as well.

The article consists of analytical research of gender based graphic design role in prevention of viruses throughout the history. The main problem is how graphic design projects influence the decrease of the virus spread and how does gender equality centred design contribute to it. The first time in the article are presented the basic principles of poster design considered for all genders to present the serious message of the urgent prevention of the virus. In the article are analysed and reviewed the works of designers as well. The significance of the article is emphasizing the importance of gender equality in design visualisation to increase the influence of them on people’s behaviour.

Keywords: Covid-19, gender equality, pandemic, design, visual communication, poster design, signs

PANEL F: Presentation 4

PLAGUE, NATURE, PLANETARY FUTURE: A POSTHUMANIST READING OF *THE SCARLET PLAGUE*

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Abstract

This article proposes a posthumanist reading of Jack London’s *The Scarlet Plague*, and argues that to secure a sustainable planetary future, human beings should understand the posthumanist nature of the world, and learn to respect nature. This article investigates two kinds of worlds, showing a preference for the posthumanist one after the plague over the anthropocentric one before the plague. In the anthropocentric world, the life of human beings is heavily industrialized and isolated from nature, and this causes disaster. However, in the posthumanist world, everything follows natural laws. Human beings are no longer dominators of the world, but share the planet with the nonhuman. In this way, both the human and the nonhuman survive and prosper. Thus, posthumanist thinking provides human beings with a way to make sustainable developments and to build a bright future.

Keywords: posthumanism, anthropocentrism, plague, nature

PANEL F: Presentation 5

Religious Heritage: Reconciliation between spirituality and cultural concerns

1.- Óscar Fernández-Álvarez

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2.- Miguel González-González

Department of Social Anthropology, University of León (Spain)

3.- Sara Ouali-Fernández

Department of Social Anthropology, University of León (Spain)

Abstract

Religious heritage has a dual cultural and religious meaning and importance in society. It has a cultural value because it symbolises the history and art of a community, and a religious value because it represents a spiritual hub and home for a community of believers. This article analyses the challenges posed by this association between religious heritage—as both an economic and tourism resource—and cultural heritage. Methodologically, an observation, reflection and analysis of the challenges that are faced are proposed. The results reveal various initiatives for development, protection and enhancement. The discussion revolves around the importance of community involvement and the benefits this brings to various sectors, including economic activity, from the perspective of religious tourism as an aspect of tourism per se, in which a faith and its believers are elements that merit heritage conservation.

Keywords: Anthropology, Heritage, Religion, Religious tourism

16th December 2022

1:30 PM Italy / 6:00 PM India to 2:00 PM Italy / 6:30 PM India

PANEL G

Post-Pandemic Perceptions

Moderator: Prof. Jyotirmoy Prodhani, NEHU

Link: <https://unito.webex.com/meet/eventicps>

<p>Twinning the Pandemic and the Anthropocene: Crises, Challenge and Conciliation in the Anxious Witnessing of Nonhuman Agency</p>	<p>Kaustabh Kashyap PhD Scholar, Cotton University, Assam</p>
<p>RACIAL PREJUDICE AND GENDER DISCRIMINATION AGAINST NORTHEAST</p>	<p>DEBBIE LALRINAWMI¹ & DR. SHUCHI² ¹Research Scholar & ²Assistant Professor Dept. of Basic Sciences & Humanities Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology Mizoram debbierinawmi91@gmail.com</p>
<p>Social Media and COVID -19 Pandemic: Accelerating the Learning of English as a Foreign Language (EFL)</p>	<p>Tawhida Akhter Assistant Professor Department of English Literature College of Sciences and Literature in Sajir Shaqra University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia</p>

PANEL G: Presentation 1

TWINNING THE PANDEMIC AND THE ANTHROPOCENE: CRISES, CHALLENGE AND CONCILIATION IN THE ANXIOUS WITNESSING OF NONHUMAN AGENCY

Kaustabh Kashyap

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Abstract

This paper seeks to situate the anxieties engendered by the COVID-19 pandemic within the framework of the Anthropocene to analyse the multi-faceted ramifications of human and nonhuman interaction. By connecting this ongoing global crisis of human health with the politics of climate change, it attempts to read the forgotten agency of the nonhuman microbe in the light of the rude disruption of the traditional understandings of biopolitics (where bare life has taken centre stage) and the difficulties it has brought in bridging the rift between abstract and concrete information, leading to the scapegoating of victims. It ends with the suggestion of preparation for greener futures by imagining human health within planetary health instead of an anxious wait for a return to pre-pandemic times.

Keywords: pandemic, Anthropocene, biopolitics, nonhuman, health.

PANEL G: Presentation 2

RACIAL PREJUDICE AND GENDER DISCRIMINATION AGAINST NORTHEAST INDIANS AMIDST COVID-19

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ABSTRACT

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has been largely racialized. With its origin rooted in China, Asians across the globe experienced labeling to be responsible for the pandemic. Asians or mongoloid looking individuals suffered discrimination, and contempt worldwide. In India, the pandemic restored, and re-established the social problem i.e. racism against the Northeast Indians which had been tackled over the years. While most of the Indians have non-mongoloid looks, the Northeast Indians are mainly mongoloid race. As such, they have Asian looks though Indian in blood. The fight of the Northeast Indians has been double. They have to fight against the virus as everyone, and of the negative mindset of their fellow Indians against them. The Indian government, as such, promptly established a committee to look into the matter. But there is no law against it which makes it hard to act accordingly. Besides the racial affliction, there existed gender discrimination which doubled the affliction of the northeast Indians.

KEYWORDS: Racism; gender discrimination; Covid-19; Northeast Indian

PANEL G: Presentation 3

Social Media and COVID -19 Pandemic: Accelerating the Learning of English as a Foreign Language (EFL)

Tawhida Akhter

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Shaqra University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Abstract:

COVID-19 began in China (2019) and spread to other nations and become a world pandemic (2020). The news media and social media platforms have played an important role in information dissemination about the Coronavirus throughout the world. During COVID-19 Pandemic, social media has become a key tool for enhancing social networking and information sharing via the web. As more people turn to the internet for health information, social media platforms are helping to spread life-saving precautions that individuals, families, and communities may take to reduce their chance of contracting the virus. Language learners are linked to interactive social media platforms in Social Media Language Learning. The goal of this study was to look at the role of social media during COVID in foreign language acquisition. The participants in this study were Saudi Arabian college students. The study's sample comprised 200 (n=200) college students, and the social media platforms investigated included Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, Youtube, WhatsApp, Telegram, Snapchat and other platforms. Questionnaires were used to collect the data. The results indicated that the students used various social media platforms in order to get the appropriate information about the virus that indirectly helped and motivated them learning a new language. These students are too self-motivated to embrace social media platforms to improve their English language skills. The study found that using online social media for learning of English as a foreign language during a pandemic had a substantial influence on interaction with peers, and teachers.

Key words: Social Media, COVID-19 Pandemic, popularity, information, Youtube, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram. EFL Learning.