



HAZI A. K. KHAN COLLEGE

HARIHARPARA, MURSHIDABAD

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

# MUSINGS



JUNE 2023

E MAGAZINE

# Editorial

Welcome to the 2023 edition of the English Department's e-magazine at Hazi A. K. Khan College, Hariharpara, Murshidabad. This year's edition encapsulates a diverse array of literary and scholarly outputs from our students, reflecting a rich mosaics of thoughts shaped by their unique experiences and insights. From the lyrical stanzas of "The Seasons of Bengal" by Sakil Reja, which vividly bring to life our region's distinct seasons, to the compelling essay by Dowaz Hossain on "Environmental Consciousness for a Better Tomorrow," our magazine offers a platform for voices that inspire and provoke thought.

The review of Jafar Panahi's "Offside," presented by Shahina Mumtaz, offers a deep dive into the cultural and gender narratives that resonate well beyond the borders of Iran, reflecting our commitment to understanding global cinema's impact on societal norms. Moreover, the stories and poems like "Dreams Big and Small" and "The Fisherman's Resolve" explore the universal themes of ambition and resilience, echoing the spirit that we cultivate in our academic endeavours.

This edition also proudly highlights the dynamic activities of our department over the past year. The introduction of new add-on courses like "Gender & Literature" and "Spoken English" signifies our ongoing efforts to enhance our curriculum and provide students with skills relevant to both their personal growth and professional demands. The international seminar on "Diaspora Literature: Exclamation for the Crises of Space and Identity" and the cultural programme "Euphoria" are prime examples of how we integrate cultural appreciation and scholarly discourse, fostering a well-rounded educational environment.

As we put together this magazine, we are reminded of the strength and resilience of our academic community, especially in these challenging times. Each article, poem, and story is a beacon of the intellectual rigour and creative passion that define our department. We hope that this publication not only entertains and informs but also inspires our readers as much as it has inspired us in its creation.

Thank you for engaging with our e-magazine. May it spark new ideas, foster hope, and encourage a deeper appreciation for the power of words and the stories we share.

**Editorial Team, Department of English, Hazi A. K. Khan College**

# From the Desk of the Principal

Greetings to all,

As the principal of Hazi A. K. Khan College, it fills me with immense pride to address our esteemed community through the annual edition of our English Department's e-magazine. This publication not only showcases the academic excellence and creative flair of our students but also reflects the vibrant spirit of our educational journey together.

Each page of this magazine echoes the dedication, hard work, and passion that define our institution. It brings to light the rich diversity of thought and the depth of inquiry that our students engage in, guided by their talented mentors. As we navigate through various challenges, both academic and beyond, the resilience and creativity displayed by our community continue to inspire and propel us forward.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to everyone who has contributed to this magazine, from the writers and editors to the artists and thinkers. Your efforts have culminated in a publication that does not just document our year but uplifts the spirits of all who read it.

Let us continue to nurture this environment of learning and growth, encouraging each other to explore, innovate, and contribute to the greater good. May this magazine serve as a beacon of inspiration and a reminder of what we can achieve together.

Warm regards,



Dr. Goutam Kumar Ghosh  
Principal, Hazi A. K. Khan College

## Table of Contents

| Content   | Page No. |
|---|----------|
| About the Department  | 1        |
| “The Seasons of Bengal” A Poem by Sakil Reja                                  | 2        |
| “Environmental Consciousness for a Better Tomorrow” An Essay by Dowaz Hossain | 3-4      |
| Film Review: Offside by Shahina Mumtaz  | 5        |
| “Dreams Big and Small” A Poem by Al Sahariar Islam                            | 6        |
| “The Fisherman's Resolve” A Short Story by Tuhina Khatun                      | 7        |
| Departmental Activities   | 8-12     |



## ABOUT THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The Department of English at Hazi A. K. Khan College in Hariharpara, Murshidabad, is committed to academic excellence and the promotion of literature and language studies. This department started its journey from the inception of this institution itself, in 2008. The dedicated faculty bring their expertise and enthusiasm to the classroom, creating a dynamic and intellectually stimulating learning environment for students. The department is furnished with classrooms, ICT classrooms, a departmental library and the Central Library is also stocked with an extensive collection of English literature as well as digital resources.

In addition to academics, the Department of English encourages students to participate in various extracurricular activities. The college often organises seminars, workshops, and literary events, inviting renowned scholars and authors to interact with the students. These activities not only enhance the students' understanding of literature but also foster creativity and critical thinking.



### Mission

- To produce generations of enlightened, cultured and socially responsible citizens.

### Objective

- To develop linguistic competence and performance of the students in English.
- To inculcate cultural and intellectual values among the students.
- To produce employable human resources with rational and competitive spirit.
- To develop the creativity of the students.



# The Seasons of Bengal

Sakil Reja  
Department of English  
2nd Semester



In Bengal, the skies tell tales,  
Spring whispers with fragrant gales.  
Flame of the forest burns bright,  
Painting villages in vermilion light.

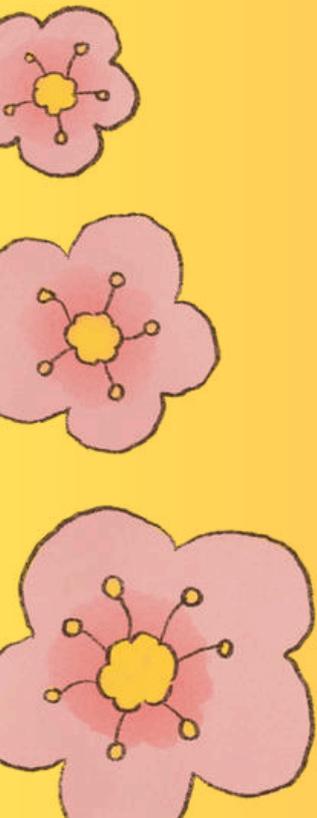
Then comes the summer's scorching hand,  
Mango showers bless the thirsty land.  
Palms sway under a relentless sun,  
Children run, seeking rivers of fun.

Monsoon serenades with rhythmic rain,  
Puddles mirror a dancing terrain.  
Green engulfs every waking dream,  
Rivers gush, alive and supreme.

Autumn arrives with festive cries,  
Drums beat under cooling skies.  
Fields of white and skies of blue,  
Kash flowers sway, in breezes they woo.

Winter wraps in a gentle fog,  
Dewdrops glisten on morning jog.  
A nip in the air, a subtle chill,  
Quiet warmth by hearths we fill.

Each season, a brushstroke of nature's art,  
In Bengal, each one a part of the heart.



# Environmental Consciousness for a Better Tomorrow



**Dowaz Hossain**  
**Department of English**  
**6th Semester**

Environmental consciousness is more than a trendy catchphrase; it is an essential mindset that requires active participation from individuals, communities, and nations globally. At its core, environmental consciousness promotes awareness of the impact our actions have on the planet and fosters behaviors aimed at sustainable living. This mindset is the first step toward a better tomorrow, one where ecological balance and human prosperity are not at odds but are integrated seamlessly.

The foundation of environmental consciousness lies in education. Informing people about the fragility of our ecosystems and the seriousness of issues like climate change, deforestation, pollution, and biodiversity loss is crucial. Knowledge empowers individuals to make informed decisions about their consumption patterns, energy use, and lifestyle choices. Schools and educational campaigns can play a pivotal role in embedding this awareness from an early age, ensuring it becomes second nature to think and act green.

Adopting sustainable practices is the next pivotal step. This includes reducing waste through recycling and composting, conserving water, and cutting down on energy consumption. Simple actions such as turning off lights when not in use, using public transportation, or cycling instead of driving can significantly reduce one's carbon footprint. Beyond individual actions, supporting or initiating community-driven environmental projects—like urban gardens, recycling programs, or local clean-ups—can catalyze broader societal shifts.

Technological innovation also holds the key to advancing environmental consciousness. Renewable energy technologies, such as solar and wind power, are becoming more efficient and affordable, making sustainable energy accessible to more people. Innovations in biodegradable materials and electric vehicles are also paving the way for less pollutive alternatives to dominate market spaces previously ruled by environmentally damaging options.

Governmental policy and corporate responsibility are equally vital in this journey. Laws and regulations that enforce environmental protection, conservation initiatives, and pollution control are fundamental to safeguard natural resources. Similarly, corporations that adopt green policies not only contribute positively to the environment but also set standards within their industries, encouraging peers to follow suit.



However, environmental consciousness extends beyond pragmatic actions to a deeper philosophical shift. It involves recognizing the intrinsic value of nature and understanding our integral part within it, not as dominators or exploiters but as stewards and caretakers. This respect for nature can inspire a more profound commitment to environmental ethics, influencing policies, education, and community initiatives that prioritize ecological health and resilience.

For a better tomorrow, we need a cultural transformation that embeds environmental consciousness into the fabric of society. We must move from seeing the earth as a resource to be used to a home that must be cared for with respect and consideration. As we face increasingly severe climate crises, the need for this shift becomes more urgent. By fostering an environment-first approach today, we are paving the way for a sustainable, flourishing future. This is not just an investment in the environment but in the survival and thriving of future generations.



# Film Review: Offside

Sahina Mumtaz

Department of English

6th Semester

We recently watched Jafar Panahi's film "Offside" from 2006, organized by our teacher, Bahadur Biswas. This Iranian movie gives us a look into how sports, culture, and gender issues mix in Iran.

The story happens during a big soccer game between Iran and Bahrain. It's supposed to be exciting, but the movie focuses more on a group of young women trying to watch the game live, even though they are not allowed to. The title "Offside" cleverly points to both a soccer rule and how these women are unfairly kept out of the stadium.

Panahi films everything with a simple camera that makes it feel real and immediate. The women, dressed like boys to get past security, are caught and watched over by young soldiers. What follows is both funny and sad, showing how silly and unfair their situation is.

The film makes all its characters feel real and human. The women are smart and really want to watch the game. The soldiers are young and don't really want to enforce the rules. Everyone is stuck in bigger issues of what society expects.

"Offside" uses the soccer game, something that usually brings people together, to show how divided people can be. We hear the game in the background, reminding us what the women are missing. The film ends on a hopeful note, suggesting things might get better.

Watching "Offside," I realized how powerful movies can be in talking about important issues like equality. It made us think and talk about big topics in a new way. This movie is more than just entertainment; it's a lesson on life and fighting for what's right. Panahi's film is not only fun to watch but also makes you think and gives you hope.



# Dreams Big and Small

Al Sahariar Islam  
Department of English  
4th Semester



Every morning, people wake up with dreams,  
Some want to heal others, bustling through hospital streams.  
Some wish to write poems under a tree,  
Creating verses that feel free.

A builder takes pride in the walls he's made,  
A dancer leaps gracefully, her passion displayed.  
Each person follows a path that's their own,  
Chasing dreams under the stars, into the unknown.

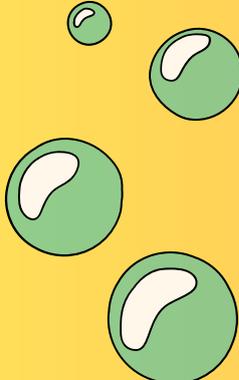
A teacher shapes young minds with care,  
A farmer plants seeds, hoping for a fair share.  
Dreams are like seeds, starting small but growing tall,  
In a world where dreamers dare to call.

A scientist explores what hasn't been seen,  
Finding secrets where few have been.  
An artist mixes colors bright and new,  
Creating scenes that draw you through.

Life is full of different dreams and goals,  
Woven together, they play their roles.  
In the future's picture, everyone's dreams are keys,  
Helping build a world as they please.

So let's keep dreaming, each in our way,  
For dreams build our world, day by day.





# The Fisherman's Resolve

Tuhina Khatun  
Department of English  
6th Semester

In a small village by the sea, there lived an old fisherman named Elias. His life had been tough, just like the rough seas he sailed on every day. Elias was old and his boat, "The Siren's Call," was worn out, but it was his faithful companion on many fishing trips.

Every morning, Elias would sail out before sunrise, hoping to catch enough fish to sell. Some days, he came back with lots of fish; on other days, he caught almost nothing. Life was hard, and it didn't help that his wife, Amina, had passed away and their son, Rashid, had moved to the city, leaving Elias to face the challenges alone.

One stormy day, Elias got a phone call that shook him deeply. Rashid was very sick in the hospital and needed expensive treatment. Elias was low on money because he hadn't caught many fish lately.

Driven by desperation, Elias decided to take a big risk. He sailed out during a terrible storm, chasing a legend of a huge school of fish that appeared only during such weather. It was very dangerous, but he was willing to do anything to help his son.

After hours of struggling with the storm and nearly giving up, Elias's net suddenly filled with fish. He barely made it back to shore with his heavy load. The village came together to help him, and he sold the fish for enough money to pay for Rashid's treatment.

A few days later, Elias sat beside Rashid's hospital bed in the city. He realised that all his life's hardships had taught him to be strong and to never lose hope. He was just a simple fisherman, but his love for his son was as deep as the ocean. Facing the storm to help Rashid showed Elias that no matter how hard life got, he could always find a way through.

Elias learned that life, like the sea, can be unpredictable and tough, but also generous. Through his toughest challenge, he found his greatest strength.

## Introduction of New Add-On Courses 2022-2023

**1. Gender & Literature:** Introducing an add-on course in "Gender and Literature" is necessary to create a more inclusive, empathetic, and informed society. It provides students with the tools to critically engage with gender issues, encourages dialogue, and empowers them to contribute to positive change in their communities and beyond. This course is expected to be beneficial for their higher studies.



Your paragraph text

**2. Spoken English:** English is a widely spoken language globally and is often used as a common language for international communication. In many industries and professions, proficiency in spoken English is considered an essential skill. It can open up job opportunities both domestically and internationally and can give one a competitive edge in the job market. Therefore, the department introduces the Spoken English Add-On Course for the students of this institution. This course is open to all students of this college.

Let's Learn  
English

## International Seminar on " "Diaspora Literature: Exclamation for the Crises of Space and Identity"

The Department of English (in collaboration with IQAC), Hazi A. K. Khan College, Hariharpara, Murshidabad, West Bengal, organised an international seminar on the topic "Diaspora Literature: Exclamation for the Crises of Space and Identity" on 29 April, 2023. The patron of the seminar, Dr. Goutam Kumar Ghosh, Principal, Hazi A.K. Khan College, delivered the inaugural speech. The resource persons, Prof. (Dr.) Mizanur Rahman and Dr. Md. Monirul Islam, successfully delivered their enlightening presentations, and offered the participants thorough interaction that became the most effective feature of the whole session. A number of faculty members, research scholars and students from all over the nation as well as from various prestigious institutions got their queries answered, and many of them shared their own views regarding different aspects of the topic. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Krishnendu Munsu, Co-Ordinator, IQAC, Hazi A. K. Khan College.

The seminar has been proved to be beneficial for the participants. The Department of English is highly encouraged by the positive responses of the participants. The UG students are also motivated by this enriching experience.

**HAZI A. K. KHAN COLLEGE**  
Hariharpara, Murshidabad  
invites you to

**A One Day International Seminar**

on  
*Diaspora Literature: Exclamation for the Crises of Space and Identity*

April 29, 2023    11.30 a.m.    Rejaul Karim Kaksha

**Organised by**  
**Department of English**  
in collaboration with  
**IQAC**

**About the College**

The generous Hazi Abdul Kader Khan who dreamed of a college of Hariharpara, a remote village in the district of Murshidabad, donated a precious piece of land on which Hazi A. K. Khan College was established. The college began its auspicious journey on 8th September, 2008. Affiliated to the University of Kalyani, Hazi A. K. Khan College aspires to function as a centre for higher studies.

**Patron**

Dr. Goutam Kumar Ghosh  
Principal, Hazi A. K. Khan College

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Jt. Convenor</b><br/>Bidisha Munshi<br/>Department of English<br/>Hazi A. K. Khan College<br/>Organising Secretary<br/>Bahadur Biswas<br/>Department of English<br/>Hazi A. K. Khan College</p> | <p><b>Jt. Convenor</b><br/>Samim Aktar Molla<br/>Department of English<br/>Hazi A. K. Khan College<br/>Support<br/>Seminar Sub-Committee<br/>Hazi A. K. Khan College</p> |
|---|--|

**REGISTRATION LINK**    <https://forms.gle/NXc7guKC2chE2Sb29>



A One Day International Seminar on  
**DIASPORA LITERATURE: EXCLAMATION FOR THE CRISES OF SPACE AND IDENTITY**

**Honourable Speakers**

**Prof. (Dr.) Mizanur Rahman**  
Professor  
Department of English  
Islamic University  
Kushtia, Bangladesh

**Dr. Md. Monirul Islam**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of English  
Presidency University  
Kolkata, West Bengal

**About the Seminar**

Literature is a medium of expression. It is an expression of the experiences of life: experiences of various kinds—pleasing or painful; happy or hurting; appealing or disappointing. When these experiences result from expatriation, a different dimension comes to be interwoven. Though globalisation often gestures homely, a feeling of "homelessness" often haunts an expatriate. And there emerges the notion of diaspora. A major theme of diasporic writing is the occupation of feasible space for both living and loving. Such a thing remains an outsider both to the new culture and to that of the homeland. Another significant theme is dual identity, the conflict between a person's ethnic legacy and the individual "new" identity. The ambivalent desire for the universal synchronisation and the ethnic affiliation makes a crisis inevitable.

Globalisation has paved the way for the expansion of diaspora literature. It is chiefly about images of adaptation of the writer's subconscious memories in the host culture. There is emotional crisis of self and nationality; there is a discovery of one's self as the centre of human existence. Diaspora literature reflects culture, tradition, social values and even history through the depiction of life in native and host country. The writers of this genre re-live in their memories to perceive the present. The ultimate upshot is an exclamation for the crisis of space and identity.

**Sub-Themes of the Seminar**

- Cultural Conflict in Diaspora Literature
- The Sense of Alienation in Diaspora Literature
- Linguistic Lacuna in Diaspora Literature
- Migration and Adaptation in Diaspora Literature
- Memory as Myth in Diaspora Literature
- Identity Crisis in Diaspora Literature
- Status of Women in Diaspora Literature
- Ethnic Affinity in Diaspora Literature
- Insider and Outsider Syndrome in Diaspora Literature
- Sense of Guilt in Diaspora Literature
- Diaspora and Gender
- Diaspora and Existentialism
- Diaspora in Cinema
- Diaspora and Postcolonialism
- Diaspora and Nationality
- Diaspora and Hybridity
- Diaspora and Multiculturalism
- Any other relevant issue

**Link for Registration:**    <https://forms.gle/NXc7guKC2chE2Sb29>

Some Gimpes of the International Seminar



Felicitation of the Speakers & Guests



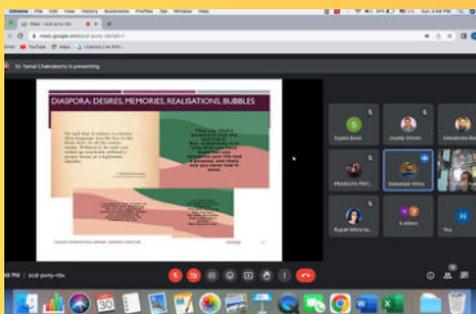
Greetings by Honourable Principal & Respected President, Governing Body



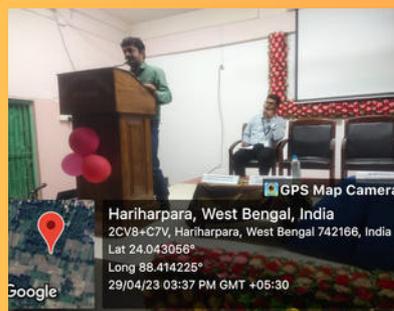
Presentation by the Resource Person Professor Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Islamic University, Kushtia, Bangladesh



Presentation by the Resource Person Dr. Md. Monirul Islam, Presidency University, Kolkata



Paper Presentation



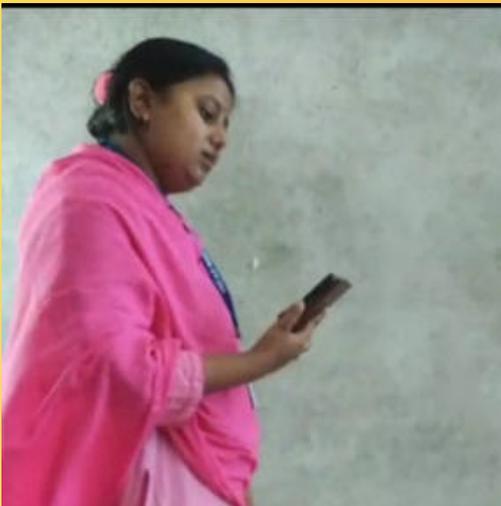
Paper Presentation



Certificate Distribution

**Departmental Cultural Programme “Euphoria” 2023**

The students of English Department organizes a cultural programme "Euphoria" on 17 June, 2023. They not only showcase their artistic talents beautifully but bid a heartfelt farewell to the departing members of our community also at this event. Thus the department seeks honour and appreciate the contributions of the individuals leaving our institution. The juniors and the teachers wish the departing students all the best in their future endeavours on this memorable and emotional occasion .



# Participation in Interdepartmental Cultural Competition

English Department participated actively in the annual interdepartmental cultural competition on 27 June, 2023. Tamim Sultana, a student of the second semester has secured the first position in the singing competition and Sulagna Mandal, another student of the second semester has won the second place in both dance and recitation competitions.

