

LANGUAGE IN INDIA

Strength for Today and Bright Hope for Tomorrow

Volume 6 : 2 February 2006

Editor: M. S. Thirumalai, Ph.D.

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International Seminar on the Role and Function of Departments of English in South Asia

April 15-16, 2005

Department of English

East West University

43 Mohakhali

Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh

Call for Papers

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Passages

In our teaching situation, undoubtedly a central concern is our existence in between languages; teaching English in our part of the world is to exist in the interstices of two languages. It is a situation that causes stress and anxiety and gives rise to paradoxes and differences, but it also induces thought and is conducive to creativity. Hybridity, diasporas, or the “chutnification of the language” are some of the consequences of being between languages, and South Asian Writing in English, English language teaching in Bangladesh, the language of officialdom, trade and commerce and even of politics have all registered the traumas as well as the creative frissons that characterized our linguistic and pedagogical situation. Globalization has also led to the commodification of English; the pressure to teach ELT and to develop English as a “service” subject has given rise to new tensions and new areas of concern in English departments.

Given such pressures, tensions, frissons, and tendencies what should English departments be like in the South Asian region in the new millennium? What bridges should they build to reconcile conflicting claims and tide over differences between different language systems and discursive pressures? It is to come to some answers to these question that we intend to organize a one-and-a-half day seminar this April (15-16) to focus on the implications of existing between languages in literary, language, and cultural studies and of living at a key juncture in the history of English studies pedagogy in the region. We thus invite papers on the following topics:

Hybridity, Diaspora and English Studies in South Asia
The chutnification of the English Language in the Subcontinent
English as a “Service” Subject
Teaching Language through Literature
Technology and Academic Practice in the English Department

Translation and English Studies
The Commodification of English
The Globalization of ELT
Teaching Language in Literature
Reading English, Reading Culture

PRESENTATION FORMAT

• Papers (20 mins)

• Demonstrations (30 mins)

Abstract should be 200 words long and should contain the following:

- Name, affiliation, fax, e-mail address & telephone no.
- Sub-theme
- Title and Abstract content
- 50-word Biodata of Presenter(s)
- Format of Presentation

- Equipment required

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Date	April 15-16, 2006
Venue	East West University, 43 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Submission of abstract	March 15, 2006
Notification of acceptance	March 21, 2006
Submission of full papers for inclusion in proceedings	April 7, 2006
Address for sending abstracts	Dr. Fakrul Alam, Professor & Dean Faculty of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences and Chair, Department of English East West University, 43 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh E-mail: falam@ewubd.edu , tasim@ewubd.edu Fax : 880-2-8812336