

*Report on*

# **ONLINE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (FDP) IN ASSAMESE**

Organized by Department of Assamese, Tezpur University  
In collaboration with Teaching Learning Centre, Tezpur University  
28<sup>th</sup> December, 2020-2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2021

Department of Assamese, Tezpur University in collaboration with Teaching Learning Centre (TLC), Tezpur University organized an online Faculty Development Program in Assamese during 28<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2021 which was coordinated by Assistant Professor Dr. Sanjib Deka. More than fifty teachers from various institutions took part in the FDP. The FDP in Assamese was proposed with the objective to acquaint the participants, teachers of Assamese literature and language, with the emerging trends in literary theory and criticism. The FDP brought together academicians and experts representing various research fields: philosophy, history, cultural studies, literary studies, film studies, and gender studies and served as a platform for sharing their knowledge, experiences and research findings to inform and renew the participants' knowledge. Followed by the brief welcome address and remarks by Subrat Jyoti Neog, HoD, Professor Mrinmay K Sarma, Director, Teaching Learning Centre, Tezpur University inaugurated the FDP with an encouraging speech. Eminent writer Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay was the Chief Guest of the inaugural ceremony.

In his speech Mukhopadhyay focused on the background of modern Assamese literature and discussed about the historical relation between Bengali and Assamese literature. The FDP consisted of 17 lectures and three activity session.



The first lecture of the FDP was on “In Pursuit of Modern Assam : The Enigma of Nineteenth Century” and it was delivered by Profesor Arupjyoti Saikia (Dept.of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT-Guwahati). Professor Saikia focused on the historical background of 19<sup>th</sup> century Assam and the colonial narratives on Assam. In the third session Prof Abhijit Bora (Dept. of Mass Communication and Journalism, Tezpur University) delivered a lecture on “Mass Media in Assamese Language in first two decades of 21<sup>st</sup> century”. He shared his experience as a journalist and highlighted the trend and tendencies of Assamese mass media in 21<sup>th</sup> century. The first lecture of Day-II was on “Translation as an act of Critical Reading” and it was delivered by

Amit R Baishya (Dept.of English, University of Oklahoma, USA). He discussed about different aspects of translation and also focused on some recent perspectives of critical thinking such as Animal studies, Eco-criticism etc. Professor Bibhas Chaudhury (Dept.of English, Gauhati University) gave a significant speech on “NewHistoricism” in the second session. He discussed how New-Historicism aims to understand intellectual history through literature and literature through its cultural context. The third lecture of Day II was delivered by Jyotirmoy Talukdar (Centre for Writing and Communication, Ashoka University). In his lecture on “Academic Writings: Some Key Issues”, he discussed about different aspects of academic writing and shared his experiences as a Senior Writing Fellow of Ashoka Universita. He also focused on the activities and importance of centre for writing and communication in higher educational institutions. Followed by his lecture, Professor Abhijt Bora conducted an activity session with the participants. The First lecture of Day-III was on “Language Technology and Assamese Language” and it was delivered by Professor Sikhar Kumar Sarma (Gauhati University). He gave a significant speech on “Language Technology and Assamese Language”. He focused on the development and challenges faced by Assamese language in digital media. Professor Madan M Sarma (Former Profeesor, Dept.of English, Tezpur University) gave a significant speech on “Eco-criticism” in the 2<sup>nd</sup> session. He discussed about the historical background and theoretical aspects of Eco-criticism in his lecture. The 3<sup>rd</sup> lecture of Day-III was on “Philosophy and Literature”and it was delivered by Bhaskarjit Neog (Jawaharlal Nehru University), where he focused on the relationship of philosophical thinking and literary movements. Mrinmoy Pramanick (University of Calcutta) delivered the first lecture of Day-IV and it was on “Dalit Literature from the Perspective of North-East”. Avinibesh Sarma of Kolkata Institute of Art Conservation gave a significant speech on “Interpreting Assam’s History through the Eyes of a Conservator” in the 2<sup>nd</sup> session. In his speech Avinivesh Sarma shared his experiences as a conservator of museum and their perspectives on interpreting history. Chandan Kumar Sarma (Dept.of History, Dibrugarh University) gave a thought provoking speech on “Language, Nationalism and Nation-State” in the 3<sup>rd</sup> session. The first lecture of Day-V was on “Assamese Literature in 21<sup>st</sup> Century” and was delivered by Professor M.Kamaluddin Ahmed (Dept.of Assamese, Gauhati University). Elaborating the socio-political and intellectual background of 21<sup>st</sup> century, he focused on the manifold trends of contemporary

Assamese literature. Prolific Writer and Recipient of Swarnakamal Award for Cinema Criticism Manoj Barpujari, delivered his speech on “Assamese Cinema in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: New Trend” in the second session. Barpujari focused on the trend and tendencies of contemporary Assamese cinema. The third lecture was on “Reading through Ages” and it was delivered by Professor Prodip Khataniar (Former Professor, Dept.of Philosophy, Cotton University). In his thought provoking lecture Professor Khataniar discussed about the intellectual history of reading and its philosophical background. Chandan Kumar Sarma (Dept.of History, Dibrugarh University) delivered his second lecture on “History, Literature and Making of Regional Historical Consciousness in the Early Twentieth Century Assam” in the first session of Day-VI. In the second session Sanjib Sahoo (Dept.of English, Tezpur University) delivered a thought provoking speech on “Subaltern Studies”. He discussed about the theoretical perspective of Subaltern Studies. A lecture on “Gender and Literature of North-East” was given by Rakhee Kalita Moral (Dept.of English, Cotton University) in the third session. She focused on the key aspects of Gender Studies and discussed select literature of North East from the perspective of Gender Studies. Professor Pona Mahanta, Eminent writer and Former Professor, Department of English, Dibrugarh University was the chief guest of the valedictory session.