

## REPORT OF DHE SPONSORED ONLINE NATIONAL CONFERENCE



**KVA DAV College for Women, Karnal**  
Directly Managed by DAV College Managing Committee, New Delhi  
Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra  
Affiliated with UGC 12(B) 2(f)  
Re-accredited 'A' Grade by NAAC  
Selected under "Star College" Scheme of Dept. of Bio-Technology, Govt. of India  
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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
organises  
**DGHE Approved**  
**One-Day Online National Conference**  
on  
***Gender and Identity: An Eco-feminist Perspective to English Literature***  
**July 03, 2021**

**Chief Patron**  
Padma Shree, Dr. Punam Suri  
President, DAV CMC, New Delhi

**Patron**  
Ms. Renu Mehta, Principal (omg)  
KVA DAV College for Women, Karnal

**Convener**  
Ms. Sunit Bhandari  
Head of Department, English

**Co-convener**  
Dr. Anju Narwal  
Dr. Deepti Sharma

**Organising Secretaries**  
Dr. Isha  
Ms. Shivangi

**Organising Committee**  
Ms. Vandana Rana  
Ms. Nitasha  
Dr. Amanjot Kaur  
Ms. Monika

The deliberations on the main theme of the National Conference- **Gender and Identity: An Eco-feminist Perspective** (as presented in English Literature) - are invited.  
The sub-themes of the national conference comprise:

1. Eco-feminist Literature: A Post-colonial Review
2. Eco-feminist Literature: A Marxist Approach
3. Eco-feminist Literature: A Socialistic Approach
4. Literature, Gender and Identity: A Revolt against the Patriarchy
5. Eco-feminist Women Writers
6. Women, Culture and Nature in World Literature
7. Self and Identity: An Eco-feministic Viewpoint
8. Radical and Cultural Effect of Eco-feminism on Literary Texts
9. Contribution of Literature to Social and Political Theory of Eco-feminism
10. Role of women in nurturing Society and Environment
11. Women and Nature: The Supreme Power
12. Any other area of inquiry related to the conference

**Important dates:**

- Last date for registration, payment of online fee and submission of abstract through Google Form: 28 June 2021
- Link for Registration:  
<https://forms.gle/LeVLhQZ4BnKAHGxw5>
- Registration Fee: Rs. 250/-
- Last date for submission of Research Paper through E-mail: July 02, 2021.  
E-mail: [deptengwebinar2021@gmail.com](mailto:deptengwebinar2021@gmail.com)

One day DHE sponsored Online National Conference on **Gender and Identity: An Ecofeminist Perspective to English Literature** was organized by the Department of English, Kumari Vidyavati Anand DAV College for Women, Karnal on July 03, 2021. The conference commenced with the DAV Anthem. The esteemed **principal** of the college, **Ms Renu Mehta**, extended a Dr. Punam Suri welcome to the guests and delegates. In her formal address, she said that an event of such magnitude will definitely have a positive impact on both academicians, in particular, and society, in general because gender and environment issues have gained great urgency in recent times. Nowadays, ecofeminism is considered as one of the major disciplines in literature due to its significant contribution in interlinking gender and environment conspicuously in ideological terms. The deep ecological crisis that we are witnessing presently due to massive environmental destruction and the oppression of women in male dominated society adjoins the fact that race, class, caste, gender and environment are intrinsically interconnected. Ecofeminism intends to raise our consciousness by steering us towards a better understanding of gender and environmental justice. **Ms Sunit Bhandari** (Head, Dept. of English & Convener of conference) introduced the theme of the seminar. **Dr. Deepti Sharma** (Co-convener of conference) was the stage secretary for the inaugural session. The inaugural address was delivered by **Prof Bhim S. Dahiya**, Former Vice-Chancellor, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. He said that Ecofeminism puts forth the idea that life in nature is maintained through cooperation, mutual care and love<sup>1</sup>. It is an activist and academic movement, and its primary aim is to address and eliminate all forms of domination while recognizing and embracing the interdependence and connection humans have with the earth. He further said that given that the subjugation of women and nature is a social construct, not a biological determinant, these relationships have the potential to change. Ecofeminism provides a forum for this change. With burgeoning

environmental destruction and historically oppressive power structures, it is important to examine closely alternative solutions to the woes of our communities, land and the earth itself. Vote of thanks was proposed by **Dr. Deepti Sharma** (Co-convenor of conference).

The stage organizer of the first technical session was **Ms. Shivangi** (Organizing Secretary of conference). The session was chaired by **Prof. Ram Nivas**, Department of English, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. **Prof. Loveleen Mohan**, Head, Department of English & Foreign Languages, MDU, Rohtak was the first speaker of this session. She presented a paper titled **Eco-Vision in the Selected Translated Works of Mahasweta Devi and Sarah Joseph: The Activist and the Romantic**. She said that writers like Mahasweta Devi and Sarah Joseph have courageously stood up for critical environmental issues and concerns. Their writings offer a unique standpoint that embraces nature while challenging the doctrines of patriarchy at the same time. **Dr. Zakia Firdaus**, Centre for Comparative Literature and Translation Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar was the second speaker of this session. She presented a paper titled **Land, Gender and Activism: Ecofeminism and North American Native Writing**. She said that North American Native Writing is rich in metaphors of nature. It portrays a world which is in complete harmony with the feminine principles of peace, tolerance, kindness, compassion, sharing, balance, and love for the entire web of life. **Dr. Chandrakanta, Former Professor, SRM University, Sonapat** was the third speaker of this session. Paper presenters **Dr Ashima Gakhar, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Botany and Dr Deepti Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of English, KVA DAV College for Women, Karnal** presented their papers during this session. **Prof. Ram Nivas** offered the chair's remarks towards the end of this session.

The stage organizer of the valedictory session was **Dr. Isha** (Organizing Secretary of conference). Valedictory address was delivered by **Prof. Anu Shukla**, Department of English & Dean, International Relations & Foreign Affairs, CDLU, Sirsa. She admired the efforts of the English Department in organizing a conference on a highly relevant subject vis-à-vis the contemporary times. She said that an Ecofeminist approach could do well in highlighting the deep and insidious effects of a hierarchical and exploitative society that rests on subjugating the environment and oppressed communities to its short-sighted and selfish needs. Just like corporates continue to treat nature ever so cavalierly to massage their never-ending quest for increased revenue, people from marginalised groups such as the disabled and transgenders continue to be unseen and unheard, while women are expected to continue with their unpaid caregiving and domestic labour, all in the guise of 'love' and 'natural instincts'. These entities continue to be under-represented, ignored, and generally thought little of. Profits and patriarchy rule the roost. An Ecofeminist approach has the ability to speak truth to power. It would work towards getting all stakeholders, including governments and companies, to commit to maintaining a healthy environment, while recognising the unequal ways in which climate change harms different groups.

**Eight Parallel Sessions** were chaired by the following: Prof. Ram Nivas, Dr. Zakia Firdaus, Dr. Pampa Sen Gupta, Dr. Chandrakanta, Mrs. Sujata Gupta, Mrs. Sunit Bhandari, Dr. Anju Narwal,

and Dr. Deepti Sharma. A total of over sixty delegates from all over India participated in the conference and presented their research papers. Report of the seminar was presented by **Ms. Shivangi** (Organizing Secretary of conference). Vote of thanks was proposed by **Dr. Anju Narwal** (Co-convenor of conference). The conference concluded with the National Anthem. Teaching and Non-Teaching staff of the college eagerly contributed to make this academic endeavor a great success.

