



# Miranda House UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

**Departmental Activities: Curriculum and Beyond Department: English Dept. Year: 2018 -19 (for the period 1.7.2018 – 30.6.2019)**

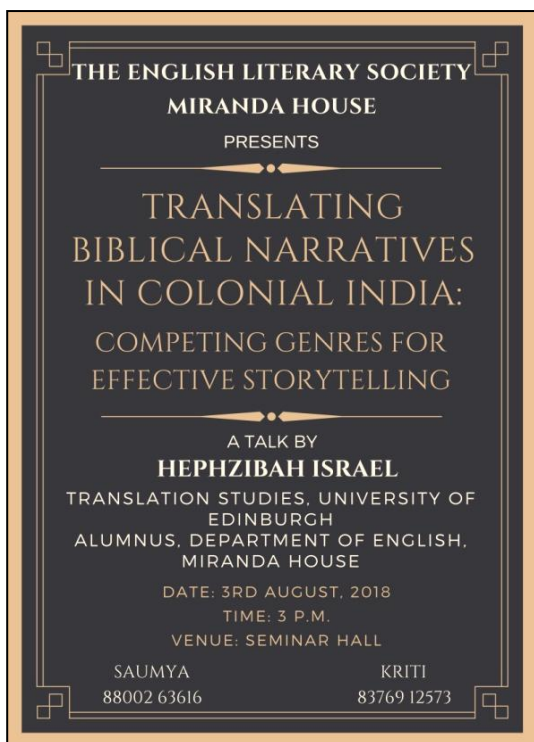
**English Literary Society and its Office Bearers:**

**Office Bearers for Academic year July 2018 – July 2019:**

**President: Saumya Rai**

**Vice President: Kriti Rana**

**Staff Advisors: Dr. Sharmila Purkayastha & Dr. Senganglu Thaimai**



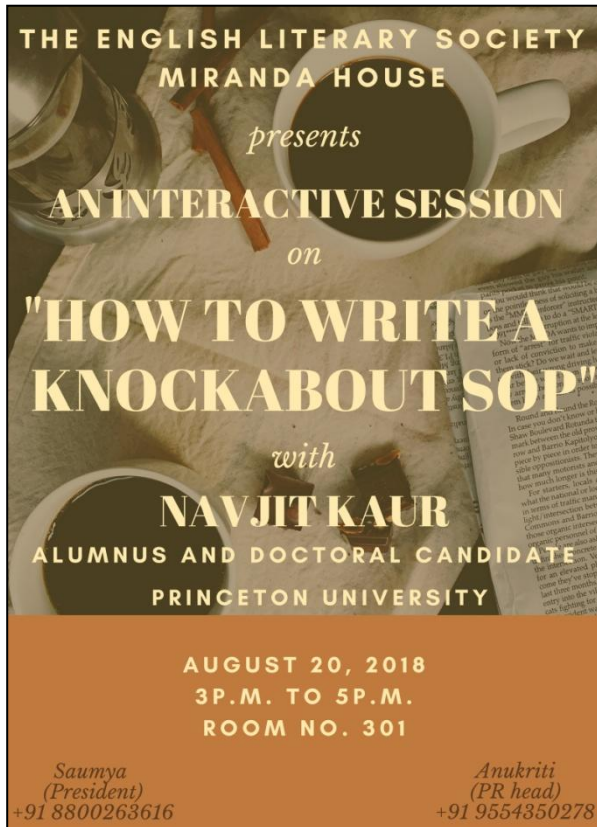
The first event of the academic year 2018-19 was a talk by Prof. Hephzibah Israel (University of Edinburgh) on *Translating Biblical Narratives in Colonial India*. In a well attended talk on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2018 Prof. Israel, an alumnus of the MH, English Dept. traced the history of different translations of the Bible's stories in colonized India.





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The poster features a background image of a white coffee cup filled with coffee, a cinnamon stick, and an open book with text. The text on the poster is as follows:

THE ENGLISH LITERARY SOCIETY  
MIRANDA HOUSE  
*presents*  
**AN INTERACTIVE SESSION**  
*on*  
**"HOW TO WRITE A  
KNOCKABOUT SOP"**  
*with*  
**NAVJIT KAUR**  
ALUMNUS AND DOCTORAL CANDIDATE  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**AUGUST 20, 2018  
3 P.M. TO 5 P.M.  
ROOM NO. 301**

*Saumya*  
(President)  
+91 8800263616

*Anukriti*  
(PR head)  
+91 9554350278

In an interactive session with the English Department students on Aug. 20th, Ms. Navjit Kaur, an MH alumnus and a PhD student at Princeton University talked about how to write an impressive SOP while applying to various universities.



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THE ENGLISH LITERARY SOCIETY  
MIRANDA HOUSE  
PRESENTS

TRANSGENDER  
IN THE TEXT AND POLITY  
*politics of the possible*

SPEAKER:  
DR BITTU KARTHIK KONDIAH,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
OF BIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY,  
ASHOKA UNIVERSITY

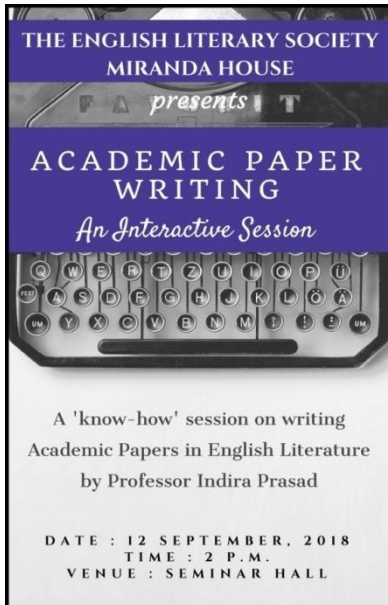
29th of AUGUST 2018  
2 pm  
SAC, MIRANDA HOUSE

On 29<sup>th</sup> August Dr. Bittu Kondiah, Assoc Professor of Biology and Psychology at Ashoka University, addressed the students on the theme of *Transgender in the Text and Polity* to explore questions related to the construction of normative sexual differences in literature, law and politics.





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On 12<sup>th</sup> September, in an interactive session with students of the English Department, Dr. Indira Prasad, an Associate Professor at MH, English Dept., discussed the various challenges of writing an academic paper and how to get around them.



In another interactive session, on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. Dhruve Pande, Assistant Professor at Ambedkar University and Afreen Sen Chatterji, a postgraduate student of King's College, London, performed kathak and ballet to discuss the representations of masculinities in these dance forms.



# Miranda House UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

THE ENGLISH LITERARY SOCIETY, MIRANDA HOUSE  
and  
ORIENT BLACKSWAN  
INVITE YOU TO

**OF INDIAN ORIGIN**  
Writings from Australia

Edited by  
Paul Sharma  
Meera Chatterjee Palmanathan

*Panel Discussion*  
ON THE BOOK  
OF INDIAN ORIGIN: WRITINGS FROM AUSTRALIA

*Panelists*  
MS. SUNEETA PERES DA COSTA  
ACCLAIMED PLAYWRIGHT AND NOVELIST  
DR. MEENAKSHI BHARAT  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DEPT. OF ENGLISH  
SRI VENKATESWARA COLLEGE, NEW DELHI  
DR. SHWETA SACHDEVA JHA  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPT. OF ENGLISH  
MIRANDA HOUSE

1ST OCTOBER, MONDAY  
STUDENTS' ACTIVITY CENTRE  
MIRANDA HOUSE  
3PM ONWARDS

*contact*  
SAUMYA: 8800263616  
ANUKRITI: 9554350278

On 1<sup>st</sup> October, there was a panel discussion on the book *Of Indian Origin: Writings from Australia* (co-hosted by Orient BlackSwan). The panel consisted of playwright and novelist, Suneeta Peres Da Costa, Dr. Meenakshi Bharat, Assoc Professor, Dept of English at Venkateshwara College and Dr. Shweta Sachdeva Jha, Assistant Professor, English Dept., MH



*Of Indian Origin* is a collection of short stories and poetry by Australian writers of Indian origin. Though the field of Indian-Australian writing is still small, this vibrant mix of emerging and established writers shows it is by no means a homogenous entity. Bold, experimental and original, *Of Indian Origin* unapologetically tackles issues of home and provides a unique overview of how Indian- Australian literary writing has developed over half a century.



# Miranda House UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

The English Literary Society,  
Miranda House  
*invites you to a seminar on*

## OID IN THE AGE OF #MeToo

- Speaker: Harriet Ragnathan,  
Retd. Professor, JMC.
- Class presentation on Ovid's *Philomela*

DATE: 10TH OCTOBER, 2018  
TIME: 2 PM  
VENUE: SEMINAR HALL

SAUMYA  
+918800263616

KRITI  
+918376912573

The event held on 10<sup>th</sup> October examined the classical writings of Ovid in the context of the contemporary #Me Too Movement and the questions related to violence against women that it raises. The two-pronged event began with a presentation by the retired Associate Professor of JMC, and editor of several books, Dr. Harriet Ragnathan and was followed by an immensely exciting paper by a group of first year students on Ovid's *Philomela* and # Me Too.

*Ek Inquilab aur Aaya* directed by noted historian, feminist and filmmaker Uma Chakravarti traces the lives and rebellions of two women living in Lucknow in the early half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The screening of the film on 31<sup>st</sup> October was followed by a panel discussion on the film, its polity and subversion of patriarchal narratives with Uma Chakravarti, Anupama Chandra and Deepika Tandon.

★ ★ ADMIT ONE ★ ★

The English Literary Society & Celluloid, the film society  
Miranda House  
Present

### Movie Screening of EK INQILAB AUR AAYA

and a discussion with Uma Chakravarti, the director

31 October 2018, Wednesday  
2:00 pm  
Seminar Hall

Saumya - 8800263616

Riddhi - 9755661155



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THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT,  
MIRANDA HOUSE  
invites you to a talk by

**Professor Suvir Kaul**  
A. M. Rosenthal Professor of English,  
University of Pennsylvania

on

**OF ARTS AND ARMS IN 18<sup>th</sup>  
CENTURY BRITAIN:  
A POST COLONIAL  
PERSPECTIVE**

Discussant: Dr. Saswati Sengupta  
Department of English, Miranda House

DATE: 8TH JANUARY, 2019  
TIME: 2 P.M.  
VENUE: SEMINAR ROOM

*All are welcome.*

A talk on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, delivered by the A. M. Rosenthal Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania, Suvir Kaul, titled *Of Arts & Arms in Nineteenth Century Britain* explored eighteenth and nineteenth century writings of various kinds in order to place them in the context of empire and nation building in Europe and Britain. Dr. Saswati Sengupta, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of English, MH was the discussant for the session.

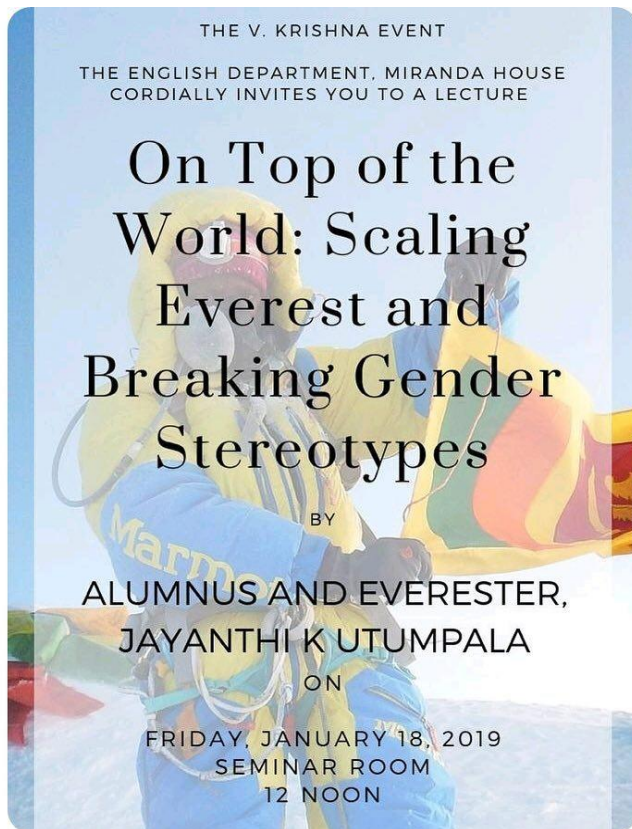




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The V. Krishna Event organized by the Dept. was an interactive session with Jayanti K Utampala, an alumnus, who scaled the Everest. The event was titled, *On Top Of The World: Scaling Everest and Breaking Gender Stereotypes*, and was held on Friday, January 18.





# Miranda House

## UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

THE ENGLISH LITERARY SOCIETY  
MIRANDA HOUSE  
PRESENTS

A seminar on  
**MYTHAMORPHOSIS**  
*contestation of multiple histories*

SESSION 1  
*Myths, History and  
Historiography*  
AN INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS ROMILA THAPAR

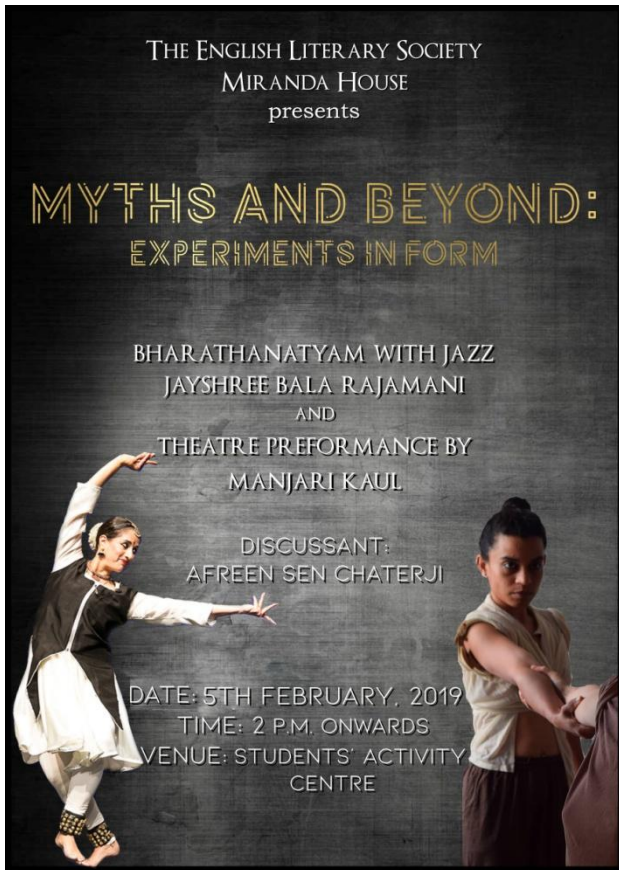
SESSION 2  
*Panel Discussion on  
Padmaavat*  
PROFESSOR IRA BHASKAR  
(SCHOOL OF ARTS  
AND AESTHETICS, JNU)  
DR PANKAJ JHA  
(DEPT OF HISTORY, LSR)  
MS SUPARNA SHARMA  
(THE ASIAN AGE)

6th February 2019 10 am - 12 pm  
Seminar Hall

The Literary Society event for the academic year was held on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of February. by addressing the film Padmaavat—a recent film based on the legend of the 14<sup>th</sup> century queen that ruffled a lot of feathers after its release. It becomes significant to look into the mediation of a mytho-legendary past as history in the context of contemporary political preoccupations and its propagation of cultural stereotypes serving the Hindutva agenda—especially that of the marauding sexualised Muslim King and the chaste Hindu woman as Sati. The event began with an interactive session with the renowned historian Professor Emeritus Romila Thapar. The second session was a panel discussion on the film. The speakers were Professor Ira Bhaskar of the School of Arts & Aesthetics, JNU, Dr. Pankaj Jha, Dept of History, LSR and Ms. Suparna Sharma of the Asian Age.



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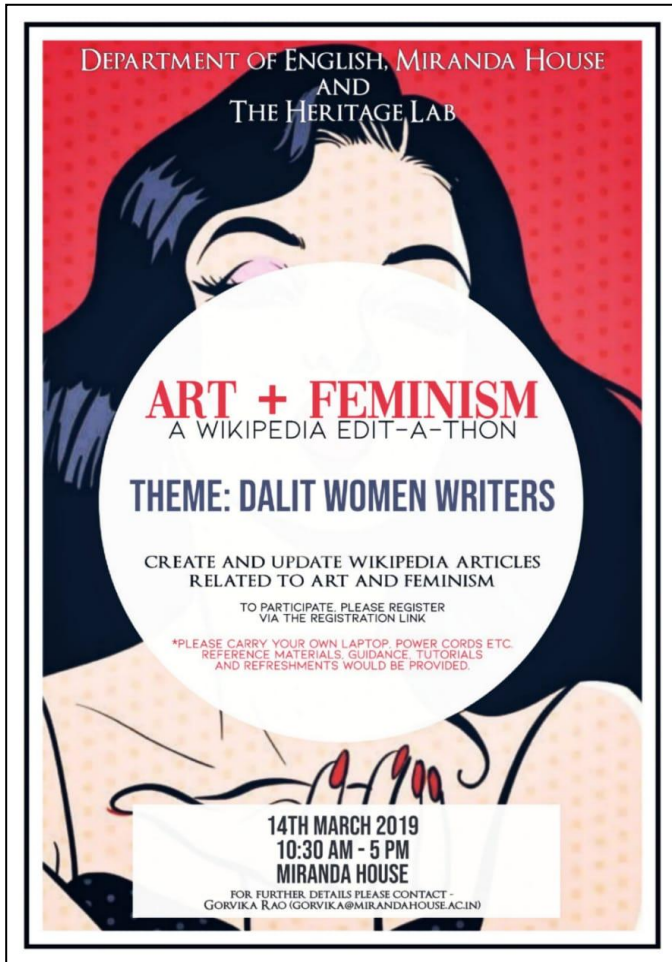


On 5<sup>th</sup> February there were performances by dance and theatre artists and alumnae Jayshree Bala Rajamani and Manjari Kaul. Jayashree Bala Rajamani fused Bharathanatyam dance with jazz music to represent Brahmanical myths on the advent of Ganga, Natraj and the relationship between Yashoda and Krishna. Manjari Kaul in her experimental theatre piece, Plan-D, used physical theatre to explore elemental experiences of life and death on the brink in an absurd universe. The discussant for the event was Afreen Sen Chatterji.





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The final event of the academic year was an Art+Feminism event on 14<sup>th</sup> March, featuring Dalit Women Writers and titled *Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon*.