

**National Conference**  
on  
**Contemporary Indian Literature: An Overview**  
**April 7 & 8, 2014**



**Department of English and Foreign Languages**

**Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak**

(A State University established under the Haryana Act No. 25 of 1975)

**NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade**

## **National Conference**

On

### **Contemporary Indian English Literature: An Overview**

April 7 & 8, 2014

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Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak

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## **ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY**

Maharshi Dayanand University, ab initio established as Rohtak University, Rohtak was created by an Act No. 25 of 1975 of the Haryana Legislative Assembly in 1976 with the objective to promote inter-disciplinary higher education and research in the fields of environment, ecology and life sciences. It was rechristened as Maharshi Dayanand University in 1977 after the name of a great visionary and social reformer, Maharshi Dayanand. It had a unitary and residential character in its nascent stage, but became an affiliating University in November 1978. The University secured the recognition of University Grants Commission - the higher education regulatory body of India - for Central Govt. grants in Feb. 1983.

The University is located at Rohtak in the state of Haryana - about 75 kms from Delhi on Delhi - Hisar National Highway (NH-10), and is about 240 kms from Chandigarh, the State Capital. It is well connected both by rail as well as road. Rohtak is a leading centre in the state for higher education.

The University campus, spread over an area of over 665.44 acres, is well laid out with state-of-the-art buildings and magnificent road network, presenting a picture of harmony in architecture and natural beauty. Educational and research programmes are offered through its 36 departments. There are as many as 10 Teaching Blocks, 10 Hostels with another 10 in the offing, an elegant Vivekananda Library with 6 off-shoots, the majestic Tagore Auditorium equipped with modern gadgetry and amenities, spectacular Students Activities Centre, Campus School, Health Centre, Faculty House, Sports Stadium, Swimming Pool, Multipurpose Gymnasium Hall, Community Centre, Printing Press, Canteens, Shopping Complex, and an Administrative Block. About 550 residential units are available for the faculty members and non-teaching staff. There is a very robust Campus Wide Network - an amalgam of cable and wi-fi technologies with 1 Gbps internet connectivity. A serene "Yajanshala" addresses the spiritual and health needs of the campus community. Branches of State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank and Central Co-operative Bank are the other

facilities available on the Campus. Besides, the University runs programmes through its University Institute of Law & Management Studies (UILMS), Gurgaon. Over 490 Institutions/Colleges of general education, Engineering, Technology, Computer Sciences and Management Sciences located in 10 districts of the State are affiliated to this University.

## **ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT**

The Department of English & Foreign Languages is one of the oldest and esteemed departments of the University with faculty of twelve highly qualified, experienced and dedicated teachers. The Dept. offers several courses namely Five-Year Integrated M.A. (Hons.), Two-Year M.A., M.Phil, Pre-Ph.D., Ph.D. besides Certificate and Diploma Courses in French & Spanish Languages. Major thrust areas of research activities are Indian Writing in English, British Literature, American Literature, Jewish and Black Literatures in America, Commonwealth Literature, Linguistics and Stylistics.

The Dept. organizes conferences, seminars, guest lectures and workshops on regular basis. Two International Conferences have also been hosted by the department. The department has an advanced Language Lab which is a central facility for all the students of the University.

## **ABOUT THE CONFERENCE**

Contemporary Indian English Writing in various forms-novel, short story, drama, poetry, prose - is much different today from what it was in its early phase in the nineteenth century or even later in the twentieth. Our writers today are producing internationally acknowledged literature, having global readership as well as multicultural settings. They are writing from different states of India from Kashmir to Kerala as well as from different countries from America to Australia.

However, even as we are proud of our contemporary Indian Literature, we need to make a critical review of its range and magnitude, its response to national and global realities, its technical and artistic achievements, its moral and ethical responses to the life of our times.

Scholars interested in attending the Seminar for a joint exploration of the proposed subject may choose to present papers on the topics related to the following sub-themes:

1. Diasporic Writers and Their Discontents
2. Narratology in the Contemporary Novel
3. Mutations of History in the Post-Independence Novel
4. Women Writers in Our Time - Their Feminist Concerns
5. The Rise of Dalit Literature

6. What is New about the New Theatre?
7. Social/Political Concerns in Contemporary Drama
8. Major Concerns in Contemporary Poetry
9. What is New about Indian Poetry today?
10. What Sort of Prose Sells Today?
11. New Directions in Contemporary Short Story

Papers are welcome on individual as well as on groups of writers/texts. Besides, the topics given here are only samples; scholars are free to write on other topics of their choice so long as they are related to the contemporary Indian English Writing between 1947 and 2013.

### **Call for Research Papers and Delegate Fee**

The delegates willing to present a paper are expected to send their abstracts in about 250 words each to the Organizing Secretaries by Jan 31, 2014 via email. The delegate fee is Rs. 2000. The delegate fee through Bank Draft in favour of Finance Officer, MDU, Rohtak payable at Rohtak may be sent latest by Feb. 28, 2014 to the organizing secretaries. The following information must be furnished alongwith the delegate fee:

1. Name
2. Mailing address
3. Telephone/mobile No.
4. E-mail
5. Date and Time of Arrival
6. Date and Time of Departure
7. Mode of Transportation
8. Whether accommodation required