

CHAPTER 15

ENGLISH

Doctoral Theses

01. CHUOBAY (Gautam)
Hindi Prose and the Gandhian First Principles: Issues of Community, Agency and Justice (1915-1948)
Supervisor : Dr. Baidik Bhattacharya
Th 23083

Contents

1.Introduction 2. Deshi chchate, Gandhi poshak: Vidyarthi, the 'Hindi' idiom of journalism and the moment of 'Euphoria' 3. Gandhi ji ke sabhapatitwa ke tale: hans, literary integration and the moment of 'resurgence' 4. Ganddhi ji mein bhi hai sab kuch, par duniyadari nahin: Viplav, revolutionaries' memoirs and the moment of 'rejection' 5. Mahatma ji likhte hain: Chand, the 'language' of reform and the making of the 'Mahatma'. Conclusion. Bibliography.

02. DAS (Aratrika)
Demarcating those Foul Bodies: Body, Death and the Mutating Masculinity in Victorian Fiction.
Supervisor : Dr. Baidik Bhattacharya and Prof. Sambudha Sen
Th 22933

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1. The Genealogy of Dark Masulinity 2. Imagining the other – Emily Bronte's Wuthering Heights and Heatheliff 3.Encountering the other – Mary Shelley's Frankenstein and the reformist literature 4. Body-as-parts-Bram Stoker's Dracula and the anatomy literature 5. Conclusion Dracula – The culmination of dark masculinity . Afterword . Bibliography.

03. DEWRI (Prachee)
Bishnuprasad Rava: A Study in Revolutionary Aesthetics.
Supervisor : Dr. Rimli Bhattacharaya
Th 22934

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Rava and the sattras: Imagining the national (1930-69) 3.Music and technology: New genres, new public (1930-50 4. The "Artist" and the "people" notions of the popular in Assam (1940-50s). Conclusion. Appendices. Bibliography.

04. DEY (Debolina)
Contagion in the Cultural Imagination of Victorian England
Supervisor : Dr. Sambudha Sen
Th 23139

Abstract
(Not Verified)

Between 1830s to 1860s, in the decades when the germ is etiologically amorphous and hence susceptible to appropriation—political, social and cultural, the sanitary reform movement is launched, propelled by Edwin Chadwick's Sanitary Report (1842) reorienting the relationship between poverty and disease. Contagion in these decades becomes not only a topic for medical contestation it also becomes a site onto which multiple anxieties are plotted. As the chief architect of the Public Health Act, Edwin Chadwick transforms this new "sanitary idea" into everyday common sense deploying the descriptive and the rhetorical as tools for disseminating this new 'common sense' of hygiene. The process through which the sanitary movement transforms from law to a new type of common sense in the everyday lives of Victorians made use of a variety of other genres and discourses apart from the bluebook itself—like tracts, magazines, speeches, short stories, novels, conduct manuals, where the social, sanitary and the moral intersect intimately. This dissertation is organised around the establishment of the public health movement in mid nineteenth century England—from 1830s to 1860s, and examines texts that are concerned with three key legislations—the New Poor Law in 1834, the Public Health Act in 1848 and the Contagious Diseases Acts in the 1860's. This thesis is chiefly interested in looking at how "contagion", as a noun, a contestable medical term morphs into a significant qualifying adjective—"contagious", and thereby becomes a potent and ubiquitous trope in the Victorian cultural imagination.

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Introduction 2. Pathologising poverty: From new law to public health 2. Inf(1)ecting each other: The moral as physical in Dicken's bleak house and Chadwick's sanitary report 3. Diffusion of useful knowledge: Domesticating reform and the ladies sanitary association 4. "Moral, social and sanitary": The contagious prostitute in William Acton's "prostitution considered". Conclusion. Bibliography.

05. JAIDEV (Anupama)

Sovereignty, State and the Individual: The National Emergency in Literature.

Supervisor : Dr. Tapan Basu

Th 22935

Abstract
(Not Verified)

Abstract This thesis explores a selection of fictional and cinematic narratives about the National Emergency of 1975-77 to explore how the moment of Emergency gets played out vis-a-vis the larger "national narrative" in the polity's cultural imagination. The proposition is that even when these narratives identify the Emergency as the moment of crisis within the political imaginary, they manage to go beyond its supposed significance to one, challenge the Emergency-as-aberration discourse and two, to effect changes in the ongoing narrative(s) of the nation. In the wake of the increasingly totalitarian, biopolitical context of the Emergency, the very structuring and ordering of the literary field undergoes perceptible changes as it configures in even closer conjunction with the political. The enactment of the Emergency in literary narratives juxtaposes the discursive with the non-discursive and the everyday, as it mediates them through the prism of subjectivised narratives. The narratives open up the messy, ruptured space between 'Democracy-Emergency', forcing a confrontation with the before and beyond of the Emergency as it were. Many narratives pitch the supposed secular, democratic framework as the natural, default category against which they seek to enact the aberration of the Emergency. However, in this very enactment, they throw up several multivalent counter-narratives that challenge the Emergency-as-aberration discourse. Then there are those narratives which hinge on the Emergency to narrativize the obliteration/ extermination of the unassimilated as the unassimilable; the nation-state's discards whose victimization precedes and continues right through the formation of the nation state and the alleged exception. As ideas regarding democracy and its exception are played out against each other; they are revealed to be as mutually constitutive as they are imagined to be mutually exclusive.

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1. Introduction 2. The emergency and the cinematic narrative 3. Emergency and after: the deliberate narrative 4. Revisiting the emergency: Narratives from 2000 onwards 5. Conclusion: From beyond the pale of the political imaginary: counter narratives tribality. Bibliography.

06. MOHMMAD AFZAL

Education and Reform in the Early Urdu Novels

Supervisor : Dr. Gautam Chakravarty and Dr. Mohammed Zakir
Th 23140

Abstract
(Not verified)

My thesis is a sociological study of the emergence of the early Urdu/Hindi novel in its relation to the rise of the middle class in north India, especially the Muslim middle class. The focus of the study is on the reformist novels of Nazir Ahmad, but the novels of Ratannath Sarshar, Hadi Ruswa, and Pandit Gauridutt are also analyzed. The thesis explores the gentlemanly character of the service class of north India, which articulated its own distinct cultural values to become the new cultural entrepreneur of the north Indian society. The changing meanings of the word “sharafat” are examined as they were continuously redefined in the writings of the Muslim intelligentsia. The changing attitude of the service class towards government employment and commerce is analyzed in the context of the theories of economic drain. The Urdu/Hindi novelists’ reconfiguration of gender norms in a colonial context is studied in the thesis. The creations of the ideal of a new woman and a new “masculine” man are scrutinized. The influence of the cult of domesticity in Britain and the legacy of Islamic reforms on the north Indian intelligentsia’s reconceptualization of home and domesticity are examined in the thesis. The implications of the linking of women’s education and domesticity for the women are explored. The thesis also examines the Indian reformers’ creation of a new moral regime as the colonial perceptions of obscenity affected them. Above all, the thesis shows how the issues of reform, domesticity, and colonial employment shaped the development of the Indian Urdu/Hindi novel.

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1. Introduction 2. Education and modernity: The madarsas, the Delhi College, and the literary culture of Delhi 2. Islamic reforms and the early Urdu novel 3. Nazir’s dream world 4. Middle class values and the early Urdu novel 5. Women’s education and domesticity 6. The early Urdu novel and the question of the middle class. Conclusion. Bibliography.

07. PATRANOBISH (PAROMITA)

Writing the Woman: Language and the Body in Virginia Woolf.

Supervisor : Prof. Harish Trivedi and Prof. Udaya Kumar
Th 22936

Contents

1. Introduction 2. “One wanted fifty of eyes to see with”: Painting and embodied vision to the light house 3. “On the ebb and flow of things” : Movement, space and the body in Mrs. dalloway 4. “As bodies to wild horses”: Interrogating non-human bodies in the waves 5. Conclusion. Bibliography.