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# **Food as Spectacle: Voyeurism and Desire in Digital Food Imaginaries of Kerala**

**Lakshmi Sukumar  
Kavya Mohan**

## **Abstract**

In this age of digital economy, visualities hold a significant role in narrating foodscapes. With the proliferation of social media spaces that define cultural practices, aesthetic representations of cuisines have evolved into interesting examples of lifestyle media. The evolution of digital food images has transformed the way culinary content is consumed and shared globally. Digital media provides a platform for creative storytelling through food imagery, where chefs, food stylists, and photographers meticulously curate presentations to convey cultural significance, craftsmanship, and culinary artistry. Platforms like Instagram, Pinterest, and blogs enable individuals and businesses to showcase their culinary creations in visually captivating ways with top-notch photography, videos, and graphic design techniques. Kerala, one of the states in South India, is home to a delicious variety of cuisine that has enticed travellers from across the globe. The intensity of digital networks in the state has further enhanced the popularity of the state's culinary imaginaries among netizens. This paper would look into the visual semiotics used in select food blogs by people belonging to Kerala to decipher the methodologies of translating food into a visual experience inciting pleasure and desire. The digital technologies used to transform food into a spectacle that attracts the 'voyeuristic gaze' of the viewers would be used as the frame of analysis. The emergence of 'Digital Voyeurism' as a new form of virtual consumption arousing sensual desire on the digitalscapes of Kerala would be examined. The paper would further analyse the construction of culinary images as 'food porn' to stimulate the senses through vibrant colours, intricate textures, and exquisite presentation of Kerala cuisine.

## **Keywords**

Culinary Imaginaries, Visualities, Spectacle, Digital Voyeurism, Food Porn, Desire

# **Political Empowerment of Women: A Historical Approach**

**Afsana Rashid**

## **Abstract**

Political empowerment of women has been regarded as one of the key determining factors for their overall development. Women that constitute almost half of the population across the globe make them a strong force in shaping the power structures in their respective societies. Their participation in the political process as electorates has been phenomenally huge in certain pockets of the world. But their political representation in terms of occupying positions in the higher echelons of power corridors and decision-making process has not been in sync with their participation as voters, which can be attributed to multiple factors. The marginalization of women in politics is reflective of their systematic exclusion from the political process. Political participation and representation of women gives them visibility and empowers them with decision-making and leadership that goes a long way in empowering them in real sense. The article while reflecting the historical approach will trace various developments that have taken place in the past across the world (with special emphasis on India) in empowering women on the political front.

## **Keywords**

Political participation, empowerment, exclusion, margin-alization, policy initiatives, gender-sensitive

# **Can Patience Predict Social Connectedness and Compassion?**

**Suman Grigary Thomas  
Shanmukh V. Kamble**

## **Abstract**

In the modern era of fast paced life, studying variables such as patience, social connectedness and compassion is germane as these variables are important for our well-being. The current study was executed to understand whether patience has a significant connection with variables such as social connectedness and compassion and whether patience contribute to these two variables. 505 college students (Male= 173, Mage= 20.25; Female=332, Mage= 20.90) from the state of Kerala, constituted the sample of the study. With the help of statistical analyses such as Pearson Product Moment Correlation and regression analysis; it was found that patience had a significant relationship with both social connectedness and compassion; as well as patience significantly predicted both the variables. Further, the implications of the study are conferred.

## **Keywords**

Patience, Social connectedness, social relationships, Compassion, Pearson Product Moment Correlation and regression analysis, variables

# **Processing Instruction and Structured Input Activities for Young Learners: A Pedagogical Proposal**

**Litto Mathew  
Tannistha Dasgupta**

## **Abstract**

This article explores the application of Processing Instruction (PI) and Structured Input (SI) activities among young learners with processing problems. Grounded in Bill VanPatten's Input Processing theoretical framework, PI targets learner's comprehension by emphasizing form-meaning connections, while SI activities facilitate the effective processing of linguistic features. The article highlights the effectiveness of PI over traditional teaching methods. It discusses pedagogical implications of adapting PI and SI in classrooms and emphasizes the potential benefits for students with processing problems. By proposing these approaches, the article underscores the importance of innovative teaching materials in addressing the processing challenges of young learners. The study advocates for further exploration and implementation of PI and SI activities to enhance language teaching and learning.

## **Keywords**

Input Processing, Processing Instruction, Structured Input, Processing Strategies

# **Recentring the Anti-Racism Theory in the Texts on Multiculturalism: A Critical Study of Children's Literature**

**Mutturaj Hipparagi**

## **Abstract**

Black bodies matter, and the black children of African continent belong to the same world in which European and Asian children also inhabitants. Hence, children across the globe must be stimulated to cultivate a broader thinking and a strong sense of acceptance. The objective of this paper is to re-examine the position of anti-racism in the contemporary scenario. It also aims to recentre the anti-racist theories in the multicultural narratives, and in turn to integrate such narratives in children's literature. Locating children's texts on multiculturalism and investigating the status of anti-racism aspects in is one of the other objectives of this paper.

## **Keywords**

Constructs, Discrimination, Dismantle, Literature, Race



# From Prescription to Description: A Review of Malayalam Grammars

Tilsa Kunjumon

## Abstract

In disciplines that concentrate in linguistic knowledge, languages have been taught majorily in two different ways: prescriptive and descriptive. Traditional Malayalam grammars were prescriptive in nature, as were nearly all traditional grammars of world languages. Using constrained models of grammar to cope with the architecture of a contemporary language like Malayalam has had major ramifications in a variety of domains including the later evolved science and technological advancements, computational linguistics, fields involving speech therapy, etc. Even in the language teaching pedagogy, the lack of a functional comprehensive Malayalam grammar, particularly one that fully addresses its syntactic and semantic features, affected the learners in such a way that language learning got relegated to memorising rules, and rhetoric, which drew criticism amongst enthusiasts. Descriptive grammars on the other hand highlighted the language circumstances of ungrammaticalities that improved the learner's rational perspective and made language learning considerably simpler. Since the 1960s, contemporary Malayalam linguistic experts have produced relevant studies on many areas of Malayalam grammar in a variety of periodicals. However, a descriptive Malayalam grammar was not addressed until R. Asher and T. E. Kumari published *Malayalam* as part of their *Descriptive Grammars Series* in 1997 (Nair, 2012). The descriptions that adhered to Asher and Kumari's framework, such as Ravi Sankar S. Nair's (2012) *Vyakaranam* and also Haowen Jiang's (2010) *Malayalam: A Grammatical Sketch and Text*, followed the possibilities that a descriptive grammar ought to. However, the gaps found in the conventional grammar models have not been entirely filled in even in the most recent models and need to be researched further (Nair, 2012). This paper is a journey through the Malayalam grammar tradition, documenting its transition from classical prescriptive models to modern descriptive ones, while analysing and critically evaluating the paradigm shift.

## Keywords

Malayalam Grammar Tradition, Prescriptive Grammars, Descriptive Grammars, Functional Grammar

# **Challenges of Religious Education Today**

**A. Sasi Kumar**  
**R. Indira**

## **Abstract**

Today, religion has become part and parcel of society. Religion's very purpose is to bring people together and foster community cohesion. Religious education is expected to act as a social glue, binding the individual and society together by increasing awareness of one's own religion and exposing the reality of pluralism in society; to lead people towards theodicy, which gives meaningful answers to ultimate and eternal questions about existence; to provide moral standards against which existing social arrangements can be measured and perhaps found wanting. Religious principles organize our minds around peace and harmony. Individuals with a rich religious life continue to provide others with emotional support in the uncertainties of this world. Religion should stick to spirituality and it should challenge the unethical practices prevailing in society and gives a clarion call towards a need of drastic change in the community. This article critically examines the aims and objectives of Religious education and sheds light on the challenges of it at present.

## **Key words**

Religious education, exclusive claims, politization, consumerism, social harmony

# Deforestation and Human Survival: Exploring the Interplay and Implications in *The Forest Beneath the Mountains*

Kanseng Shyam

## Abstract

Forests have long held a profound place in human consciousness, serving as symbols, metaphors, and motifs throughout literary history. From ancient epics like *The Odyssey* and *Mahabharata* to modern novels, forests are portrayed as realms of mystery, supernatural forces, and natural richness, reflecting humanity's deep-seated connection to the natural world. Ankush Saikia's novel *The Forest Beneath the Mountains* poignantly captures this complex relationship, particularly exploring the delicate interplay between human survival and deforestation. This study examines the protagonist Abhijit's journey to uncover the cause of his father's death, which unveils a shocking transformation of the forests along the Brahmaputra River due to unchecked deforestation. Through an ecocritical lens, the study investigates the social, cultural, and ethical underpinnings of forest exploitation within the novel, considering how economic interests and societal values influence human responses to environmental degradation. By analyzing *The Forest Beneath the Mountains*, this research paper seeks to explore how Saikia's narrative reflects on the consequences of deforestation, emphasizing the broader impact on both individuals and communities and uncovering the ways in which power structures perpetuate ecological harm.

## Keywords

Forest, Brahmaputra River, deforestation, ecocriticism, degradation, environment Introduction

# **Postcolonial Slaves: A New Historic Study of *Christmas at Keelvenmani***

**S. Marithai  
S. Maheswari**

## **Abstract**

India got its political independence on 15 August 1947 and became a postcolonial nation. But there is a long way to travel to attain and achieve social independence. There are many problems related to the socially, culturally and economically oppressed people. Still there are problems of untouchability, bonded labour, gender violence and violence against children and so on. People are ostracised and oppressed based on these factors. These subalterns are not allowed to have freedom of speech by which they can claim their rights. Here is one such event that happened in 1967 at Keelvenmani where the tenants have been considered as bonded labourers and have been made to live in secluded huts made of coconut and palm fronds. This paper highlights the notion that they have not been provided with basic amenities. It also explains how their voices are muted by the capitalist landlords.

## **Keywords**

Postcolonial Slaves, Landlords, New Historic Perspective, Social Independence

# **Women in Patriarchal Dominance: A Study of Social Profile Under the Sultanate of Delhi**

**Imon-ul-Hossain**

## **Abstract**

The Turks brought their own heritage in India which they derived from the Arabs and the Abbasids. In central Asian tribal culture, it has been apparent that their women occupied a revered position by actively participating in politics and taking significant interest in intellectual sphere. In the course of time after their arrival in India the customs, traditions, and practices by the royalty, nobility and Turkish soldiers said to have transformed under the impact of indigenous conditions. The available information regarding the position of women under the Sultanate of Delhi and their influence in Indian society is scanty. But very often, something incidentally mentioned about them provides us with some data about their condition in the social and cultural life of the period. This paper will attempt to expound the status of Women in Sultanate period in terms of patriarchal sway through which it can be discernible that how much confrontation the women had to surpass in a society of gender discrimination.

## **Keywords**

Sultanate, Women, Patriarchy, Sati, Jauhar

# **Significance of Differentiated Instruction and Assessment for English Language Learners in the Engineering Colleges of Visakhapatnam-A Study**

**K. Sasidhar  
G. Aruna**

## **Abstract**

The English Language Learners (ELLs) attend the classes at college level to gain mastery over the language for various reasons. These learners have varied learning speed, cognitive abilities, and are from different socio-economic backgrounds. It is always a challenge for an English teacher to manage such mixed ability classrooms. Further deterrents to foster the skills of English language include, students are an admixture of urban and rural areas and among these students, most of them completed their schooling in regional medium. To address these constraints, Differentiated Instruction and Assessment within an English as a Second Language (ESL) classroom represents an educational approach that effectively recognizes and caters to the diverse requirements, capabilities, and cultural backgrounds of English language learners (ELLs) who share a common learning environment.

The paper elucidates the difficulties surrounding the challenges and promises inherent in the implementation of the Differentiated Instruction and Assessment (DIA) approach. The research was conducted within the realm of Computer Science Engineering students, with a comprehensive sample of 600 students drawn from five distinct Engineering Colleges in Visakhapatnam. The study offers a profound analysis of the pivotal roles played by both teachers and students within the framework of Differentiated Instruction and Assessment. It delves into the evolving dynamics of the teaching and learning process, emphasizing the adaptability and flexibility required in this context. Furthermore, the paper scrutinizes the pivotal role of instructional materials and resources deployed in the study. These resources encompass a broad spectrum, encompassing traditional textbooks, varied materials, tailored assessments, and various educational tools. All of these are meticulously designed to meet the diverse and individualized needs of the student cohort.

## **Key words**

Differentiated Instruction, Differentiated Assessment, mixed ability classroom, teaching and learning process, learner achievement

# The Bawdy-Loving Goddess of Kodungallur: Bharani Songs as Objects of Madness, Power, and the Latent Sex-Positivism

Nandini Pradeep J.  
Gouthaman K.J.

## Abstract

An assemblage of oracles, the Meena Bharani Festival of Kodungallur Devi Temple is home to a multifarious array of divergent customs. From songs wrought with the choicest of sexual slurs praising the goddess and her sexual organs/pleasures, to Kavu Theendal (making the grove/shrine impure), the traditions and rituals of this temple stand out in the cultural map of Kerala representing the height of its ‘orgiastic mystification.’ The paper analyses to form a cerebral map of sexuo-cultural imagination as told by these songs in particular and the rituals as a whole, given the man-made *object* that it is. This paper contends that contrary to popular dissonance, the language of these songs projects a sex-positive feminist (pre-dating the term itself) attempt to subvert both caste and gender dynamics, using a language which is prohibited in the cultural setup otherwise. The contrapuntal harmony of the sacred and the profane, here, disinters the sub-hierarchical use of songs as objects, appeasing a goddess who is imperfect and divine as well as mobilizing the feminine with a space of liberation. This convergence of a *madness*, which is religio-sexual, with the power of the body — both divine and human— appropriates the culture-scapes of a society immersed in goddess worship. The paper intends to cryptanalyze this espousal to sufficiently redraw the feminine religio-cultural anatomy of the temple, its rituals, and the songs written in a bawdy tongue which is otherwise “theirs/another’s” and subsequently, that of the feminine in this cultural context.

## Keywords

Madness, Power, Sexuality, Sex-Positive Feminism, Rituals

# Memorising Identities: Reading the Folktales of Medieval Kerala

Fathima Shanitha A.  
Rinu

## Abstract

Memory, fragments from the past, individual and collective in nature surfaces from time to time in different forms like thoughts and often in more visible forms like literature, art or performances. Folklore being one of the means whereby memory of a folk reemerges, and revives the tales, myth or legends related to social, economic and cultural aspects of any folk group. Folklore refers to the wisdom and learning cherished orally by any folk group. Folklore and memory is intertwined in a perpetual cycle in the lives of any folk group. Folklore perpetuates memory of places, people and events. These memories manifest in the form of art, literature, performance, and festivals which once again propagates folklore. Here folklore plays a crucial part in shaping the identity of that particular event, place or person. The memory conjoins the past and present. Folktale constitutes one of the categories of folklore. Folktales from erstwhile princely states of Malabar, Cochin and Travancore preserve the memory of places, events and people in its various manifestations like *theyyam*, *pooram*, *paattu* etc. The paper focuses on the significance of folklore and the collective memory of the folk group in identifying a place, an event or a person through various folk expressions.

## Keywords

Collective memory, Folklore, Folk group, *Theyyam*, *Pooram*, *Paattu*