

National Seminar on Gendered Urban Spaces: Narratives of Self-Possession

17-18 February 2017

Organized by



**The Department of English
The IIS University, Jaipur**

In collaboration with



**Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
New Delhi**



THE IIS UNIVERSITY

deemed to be a university under section 3 of UGC Act., 1956

SFS, Gurukul Marg, Mansarovar, Jaipur-302020

Ph : 0141-2397906, 2400160, 2400161 • Fax : 0141-2395494

Email : engseminar@iisuniv.ac.in • Web: www.iisuniv.ac.in

THE SEMINAR

We, as part of a civil society, need to redefine our understanding of women in relation to public or social and private or family/domestic space; especially female urban spaces as represented in literature. The Seminar seeks to problematize how living in urban spaces marks as well as produces gendered and sexed bodies. The focus will also be on how gender, class and race-relations, performances and sexualities, in turn, make their marks on urban spaces. The wider aim is to begin a cross-disciplinary examination of the theoretical implications and lived experiences of urban spaces.

The title of the Seminar is not simply about space or thinking space or questioning space. Rather, the idea is to examine space as the product of man-woman inter-relations; thus, we must recognize space as constituted through interactions between the two sexes and which may also involve transgressing boundaries. Space is the sphere of the possibility of the existence of multiplicity; that is, it is the sphere in which distinct trajectories coexist as the sphere, therefore, of coexisting heterogeneity.

Urbanism and its imaginative and creative reflections have been at the heart of Western culture and the source both of political order and social chaos since the Enlightenment. Space matters for it reflects how we engage, understand and approach the world. Conceptualizing space should, therefore, be a pressing concern for us - especially women - the world over; it should cause us problems, make us think and interest us in gendered geographies.

The Seminar would acquire a national status in raising the question as to how the rapidly developing modern metropolis has proved to be an inspiring enough environment for artists and thinkers because of its immense variability and diversity as well as the boundless promise it holds. It would draw from feminist cultural theory and geography, among others, to argue how urban spaces provoke ambivalent attitudes and feelings in many who are thrilled by the opportunities it affords for their self-realization but who, sometimes hypocritically, also fear its vices and abhor the crudity of its life.

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Seminar is to examine the ways in which women have been represented in literature with regard to 'space', i.e. domestic, personal or private and even public or political. Against the backdrop of the cityscape, the following would be problematized:

- ☐ gendered public spaces and places
- ☐ women and territoriality
- ☐ full citizenship of one's own city, especially women's right to the city

WHO SHOULD ATTEND ?

Academicians, research scholars and postgraduate students of :

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| • English Literature | • Sociology | • Political Science |
| • Psychology | • History | • Art and Aesthetics |
| • Gender Studies | • Geography | • Architecture |

THE IIS UNIVERSITY

The IIS University (IISU), Jaipur is a cosmopolitan and vibrant deemed-to-be-a-university and is amongst the first thirty eight universities in India placed under Category '1' by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. It is known for excellence in imparting meaningful education to students and to encourage them to think innovatively. It particularly focusses on empowering women to face challenges of life with confidence and also provide creative leadership in times to come through its credo of "Inspiration, Innovation and Synergy".

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

An abstract of about 250 words including the title, author (s), and address typed in MS Word, in single spacing, should be submitted by 31 December 2016. The abstract should include the basic argument, the problems encountered in the relevant areas and the possible solutions/ conclusions. Where the paper is authored by more than one person, please underline the name of the presenting author. Participants whose abstracts are selected for presentation will be informed by 15 January 2017.

The abstract should be submitted through e-mail to: **engseminar@iisuniv.ac.in**. Registration forms will be accepted only after an intimation of abstract-selection has been sent.

PAPER PRESENTATION

- ☐ Keynote address and plenary talks will be delivered by invitation.
- ☐ Time of about 10 minutes will be given for each presentation.
- ☐ LCD projector facility will be made available for making presentations.

REGISTRATION

Participant-Category	Registration up to 16 February 2017	Spot Registration
• Faculty Members	₹ 2000/-	₹ 2500/-
• Research Scholars	₹ 1000/-	₹ 1500/-
• Students	₹ 800/-	₹ 1000/-

Registration fee should be paid either by DD in favour of **The IIS University, Jaipur** or in cash. The fee includes delegate kit, lunch and high tea.

A request for registration, in the prescribed form along with the registration fee, may be sent to the University by 16 February 2017.

- ☐ Photocopy of the registration form may be used.
- ☐ The registration form can also be downloaded from the University website: **www.iisuniv.ac.in**.
- ☐ Acceptance of form is subject to remittance of registration fee.

TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION

- ☐ Participants whose papers are accepted for presentation will be paid travel expenses to the extent of III AC train fare/ Volvo bus fare.
- ☐ Accommodation can be booked on request and prior notice. The payment for the same will be borne by the participants themselves.



Patron
Dr. Ashok Gupta
Vice Chancellor
The IIS University, Jaipur

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prof. Raakhi Gupta, Prof. K.S. Sharma, Prof. Subhash Garg, Prof. M.K. Sharma and Prof. Pradeep Bhatnagar,
Prof. Jasbir Jain, Prof. J.N. Sharma, Prof. Santosh Gupta, Prof. Sudha Rai

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Seminar Director
Prof. N.K. Jain
Dean, Faculty of Arts & Social Science
The IIS University, Jaipur

Seminar Convenor
Dr. Rani Rathore
Head, Department of English
The IIS University, Jaipur

Organizing Secretaries

Dr. Rimika Singhvi
Associate Professor, Dept. of English
The IIS University, Jaipur

Dr. Sucharita Sharma
Asst. Professor, Dept. of English
The IIS University, Jaipur

Members

Dr. Aditi Bhardwaj, Ms. Shivangi Bhatt, Dr. Anita Hada Sangwan, Ms. Priyanka Ruth Prim

CONTACT DETAILS

Dr. Rani Rathore
9772204306
rani.rathore@iisuniv.ac.in

Dr. Rimika Singhvi
9783307195
rimika.singhvi@iisuniv.ac.in

Dr. Sucharita Sharma
8875003268
sucharita.sharma@iisuniv.ac.in

