

Department of English  
 Ramakrishna Mission Residential College (Autonomous), Narendrapur  
**Inter-University Students' and Researchers' Conference 2017**

**Limits of Laughter in Cultural Discourse and Practice**

(November 10-11, 2017)

**Schedule**

**Day 1**

**November 10, 2017**

**10:00-10:30a.m.** Registration

**10:30-10:45a.m.** Inauguration by **Swami Krishnanathanandaji (Vice Principal, RKMRC, Narendrapur)**

Vedic chanting by college students

**Address of Welcome by Sri Satyaki Pal (Associate Professor, Dept. of English, RKMRC, Narendrapur)**

**10:45a.m.-11:45a.m. Keynote Address: Prof. Swapan Chakravorty, Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore Distinguished Professor of Humanities, Presidency University**

**11:45a.m.-12:00p.m.** Coffee

**Session 1: 12:00p.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**Venue: College Auditorium**

**Chair: Dr. Sandip Ain, Bankura University**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Mitarik Barma	Assistant Professor	Basanti Devi College, Kolkata	Can masks laugh? Issues of laughter and identity in Kobo Abe's <i>The Face of Another</i>
Dhee Sankar	Junior Research Fellow	Presidency University	Committing Comedy: Laughter as the Heresy of Worldliness in <i>The Name of the Rose</i>
Basundhara Chakraborty	M.Phil Research Scholar	School of Women's Studies Jadavpur University	Interrogating Stereotypes through Feminist Humour: A Critical Study of Selected Writing by Marietta Holley

**Parallel Session 1: 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.****Venue: E-Room****Chair: Dr. Tajuddin Ahmed, Aliah University**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Tirtha Pratim Deb	Independent Scholar		Didn't Hear the Phone Ring: Disability Experience and Stand-up Comedy.
Sampreeti Sen	Postgraduate Student	Dept. of Comparative Literature Jadavpur University	Laughing at the face of Displacement : Decoding the trope of 'laughter' in Partition
Arjo Bhattacharya	Undergraduate Student	RKMRC, Narendrapur	TBA

**Lunch Break (1:00p.m. -1:45p.m.)****Session 2: 1:45p.m.-3:00p.m.****Venue: College Auditorium****Chair: Sri Suwendu Ghatak, Assistant Professor, Jagannath Kishore College, Purulia**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Ankush Goutam Ghosh	Postgraduate Student	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	How Many Jokes Does it Take to Change the Government?
Dhruva Jyoti Das	Postgraduate Student	RKMRC, Narendrapur	'LAUGHTER' IS O-U-W-T! An Evaluation of Racial Humour in Tom and Jerry
Siddharth Sinha and Arunava Banerjee	Independent Scholar Undergraduate Student	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	The Batman Who Laughs: The Joker and a History of Malevolent Laughter
Rajarshi Roy	Postgraduate Student	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	'Did you hear the one about Comrade Stalin and toilet paper?': A Study in Political jokes about Soviet Propaganda and their Western Reception

**Parallel Session 2: 1:45p.m.-3:00p.m.****Venue: E-Room****Chair: Sri Pranab Kumar Mandal, Assistant Professor, RKMRC, Narendrapur**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Shubhajit Saha	Postgraduate Student	RKMRC, Narendrapur	Laughter and the Autocrat: A Comparative analysis of <i>The Great Dictator</i> and <i>The Dictator</i>
Debojyoti Das	Postgraduate Student	RKMRC, Narendrapur	To laugh or not to laugh: Reading Notes on <i>Waiting for Godot</i>
Suman Paul	Postgraduate Student	RKMRC, Narendrapur	The Scope and Constraints of Laughter as a tool of Dominance in Visual Media
Prabal Bhowmik and Ramtanu Banerjee	Undergraduate Students	RKMRC, Narendrapur	Parody and Chaplin

**Session 3: 3:00p.m.-4:00p.m.****Venue: College Auditorium****Chair: Sri Suvankar Ghosh Roychowdhury, Assistant Professor, Raidighi College**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Pratyasha Basu	Undergraduate Student	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	Laughing at Our Own Insignificance: Existential Humour in the Digital Age
Bhaswar Chakraborty	Undergraduate Student	RKMRC, Narendrapur	Laughter and the aspect of social 'clowning' in Osamu Dazai's <i>No Longer Human</i>
Satagni Sikder	Undergraduate Student	RKMRC, Narendrapur	Laughter and Incongruity in <i>The Pickwick Papers</i>

**Day 2**

**November 11, 2017**

**10:30a.m.-11:30a.m. Plenary Session**

**Speaker: Dr. Soumyabrata Choudhury**, Associate Professor, School of Arts and Aesthetics,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Chair: **Dr. Sumit Chakrabarti**, Head and Associate Professor, Dept. of English, Presidency University,  
Kolkata

**11:30a.m.-11:45a.m.** Coffee

**Session 4: 11:45p.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**Venue: College Auditorium**

**Chair: Dr. Subhajit Sengupta, Burdwan University**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Jagannath Basu	Assistant Professor	Sitalkuchi College, Cooch Behar	Laughing Matter(s): Presence and Laughter in Rabelais' <i>Gargantua and Pantagruel</i>
Gourab Goswami	M.Phil Research Scholar	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	'Everything that begins as comedy ends as tragicomedy': The curious case of <i>The Last Laugh</i>
Mercia Rozario	Independent Scholar		Democratic Censorship: The Invisible Lines in Generating Laughter
Jayati Maity	M.Phil Research Sholar	University of Calcutta	Power Games: Construction of the Laughable in Colonial India

**Parallel Session 4: 11:45p.m.-1:00 p.m.****Venue: E Room****Chair: Sri Sujay Thakur, Assistant Professor, Gangadharpur Mahavidyamandir**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Supromit Maity	Guest Lecturer	Raja Narendralal Khan Women's College	The Ritual of (meaningless)laughter : The Curious Case of the Laughing Clubs, An Attempt in Futility
Aritra Basu	Postgraduate Student	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	Laughing one's way out: Analysing humour as a defence mechanism in Situational Comedies
Tirna Chandra	Undergraduate Student	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	'There's Such A Thing As Good Grief, Just Ask Charlie Brown': Relatable Humour And The Depth of Everyday Tragedy.
Meghna Roy	Undergraduate Student	Dept. of English St. Xavier's College	'Suit Up': The Construction of Masculinity through a Sitcom

**LUNCH BREAK (1:00p.m.-1:45p.m.)****Session 5: 1:45p.m.-3:00 p.m.****Venue: College Auditorium****Chair: Sri Sambuddha Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Krishnanagar Govt. College**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Richa Prasad	Assistant Professor	Aditi Mahavidyalaya (DU)	Children's Appreciation of Humour
Ayana Bhattacharya	Postgraduate Student	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	'To Be or Not To Be' serious?: Laughter in times of seriousness
Sohini Chatterjee	Independent Scholar		(Not) A Laughing Matter: The Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation Dinner and the Politics of Humour in the 2016 US Presidential Election Campaign.
Atasi Sahoo	Guest Lecturer	Raja Narendralal Khan Women's College	A Dialectic of Power-play: A Dialogue between Political and Apolitical Cartoons and the Purpose of Evoking Laughter

**Session 6: 3:00p.m.-4:15 p.m.**

**Venue: College Auditorium**

**Chair: Sri Siddhartha Dey, Assistant Professor, Bidhannagar College**

Name	Designation	Institution	Title of Paper
Heeba Din	Doctoral Scholar	Media Education Research Centre, Kashmir University	Comic Intifada: A Study into the use of Political Humour as a tool for resistance
Ritarekha Dutta	Postgraduate Student	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	The Chain of Growing Significances in the Second World War black comedy- <i>City of Thieves</i>
Medhashri Mahanty and Rajarshi Roy	Postgraduate Students	Dept. of English Jadavpur University	The Anxiety of Violence: Just Words in Jest
Urvi Shah	Postgraduate Student	Dept. of English, Jadavpur Univ.	Irony and Subversion of Humour in Sukumar Ray's Nonsense Poetry

**4:15p.m.-4:30p.m. Valedictory Session**

**Venue: College Auditorium**

**Valedictory Speech: Prof. Ashok Sengupta, Former Professor, Kalyani University**

**Closure by the Convenors: Sri Arya Ghosh (Head, Dept. of English, RKMRC, Narendrapur) and**

**Sri Sankha Ghosh**

The certificates may be obtained from the Registration Desk.