# DR. KIRAN KALRA

Department of English Jammu and Kashmir Higher Education Department Jammu Residence:127/1A, Parveen Colony, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir



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#### AREA OF INTEREST

Indo-Canadian Diasporic Literature.

### **EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION**

- Ph.D. on the topic "Cultural Ambivalence in the Fiction of M.G. Vassanji," University of Jammu, Jammu.
- M.A. English, 2004-2006, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.
- Bachelor's in education, 2006-2007, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- B.A. (Hons.) English, 2001-2004, University of Delhi, New Delhi.
- Senior Secondary, 2001, CBSE, New Delhi.

#### **RESEARCH TOPIC**

#### "Cultural Ambivalence in the Fiction of M.G. Vassanji":

It examines the corpus of Indo-Canadian Diasporic writings with special reference to Giller Prize-winning author M.G. Vassanji.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Presently working as an Assistant Professor (English), Govt. P.G. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.
- Assistant Professor (English), Government Degree College, Paloura, Jammu from 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016 to 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

- Assistant Professor (contractual) in the Department of English, Central University of Jammu, Jammu from January 2014 to August 2016.
- Lecturer (contractual) in the Directorate of Distance Education, the University of Jammu from July 2013 to January 2014.
- Professional Instructor for the University of Kashmir sponsored course on Spoken English & Personality Development for graduate-level students.
- Professional Instructor for the Basic Course in **Functional English** conducted by *Centre for Adult, Continuing Education & Extension*, the University of Jammu from September 11, 2009 to November 9, 2009.

#### AWARDS AND HONOURS

 Received Distinguished Alumni Award for Overall Outstanding Achievements by Maitreyi College, University of Delhi, during the Annual Day Celebrations held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

#### **RESEARCH SCHOLARS SUPERVISED**

- Shalini Rana, co-supervising PhD on the topic "Bewilderment and Liminality: An Analysis of Selected Post 2000 Cancer Narratives" from Lovely Professional University Jalandhar, Punjab under-enrollment no.41801019 registered in 2019.
- Gharo Devi, co-supervised PhD dissertation on the topic 'Narratives from Jammu: An Analysis of Dogri Short Stories in English Translation' from the Sri Satya Sai University of Technology and Medical Sciences, Sehore under-enrollment no. SSSENG1627W, session 2017.
- Nasir Faried, M.Phil. dissertation entitled "Cultural Encounters in the works of Orhan Pamuk" Central University of Jammu, 2016.
- Pankaj Bharadwaj, M.Phil. dissertation entitled "Representation of Kashmir in Siddhartha Giggoo's *The Garden of Solitude* and Bharat Wakhlu's *Close Call in Kashmir*" Central University of Jammu, 2016.
- Tanishika Bhagat, M.Phil. dissertation entitled "Writing Food-Cook Books and The Nation" Central University of Jammu, 2016.

• Deepanjali Sharma, M.Phil. dissertation entitled "Revisiting Nonsense and Wonderland: Hindi language Reception of 'Alice' in India" Central University of Jammu, 2016.

### PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

- Attended the 'Financial Awareness Program' conducted by the Centre for Investment Education and Learning (CIEL) on March 1, 2023.
- Presented paper on the title Caste, Class, Religion and Sexuality in Silvadurai's The Funny Boy in a Three Day International Conference on Language, Literature, and Folklore, which was organised and hosted in blended mode by the Department of Linguistics and Literature, School of Humanities and Liberal Arts, Cluster University of Jammu on 28-30 January 2023 (Both dates included) in collaboration with Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) Mysore.
- Presented a paper Titled "Science Fiction in Dogri Language a Study of a Better Way of Life" at the International Conference on Science Fiction Studies organised by Department of English IAH GLA University Mathura from 17th -20th July 2022.
- Presented a paper titled "Twice Untouchables: A Study of Dalit Queer Identity in R. Raj Rao's "The Boyfriend" in a Two-Day Online International Conference on "Theorising Anti Casteism" organised by the Department of English, Presidency University Kolkata from 7-8 June 2022.
- Presented a paper on **Identity, Displacement and Race Relations in M.G. Vassanji's** *The Gunny Sack* in a three day International Multidisciplinary and Multilingual Conference on Myths, Legends, Folklores and Itihaas in Indian and Indenture Literature, organised by Centre Of Indian Diaspora and Cultural Studies, Department Of English and Modern European Languages, the University of Lucknow from March 03-05, 2022.

- Participated in Three Days International Webinar on "Emerging Trends in Literature & Film Studies" (26th-28th August 2021) organised by the Department of English Studies, School of Social Sciences & Humanities, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur.
- Presented a paper on "Culture, Food, Stories, and Identity: Narratives of Diaspora in the In-between world of Vikram Lal" in a two-day Virtual International Conference on "Space, Narratives, and South Asian Canadian Diasporic/Transnational Experiences" organised by the Indo-Canadian Studies Centre, the University of Mumbai in collaboration with Shastri Indo Canadian Institute, New Delhi & International Society for Educational Leadership on 4th - 5th March 2021.
- Presented a paper on "Indian Diaspora in Africa: A Study of M.G. Vassanji's *The Gunny Sack*" in a two-day International Webinar on "African Literature, Orature and Culture" organised by The Department of English, Rishi Bankim Chandra College, Naihati, West Bengal on 22nd August 2020 and 23rd August 2020.
- Presented a paper on "Children of Diaspora: A Study of 'The Time of the Peacock" in a Four-Day virtual International Conference on "Diaspora Across Time and Space: Multifarious Understandings of Indian Diaspora Literature" organized by Vellar College for women affiliated to Bharathiar University, Coimbatore from 17 June 2020 to 20 June 2020.
- Presented a paper on "Indian Queer: Caste, Class, Religion, and Sexuality in R. Raj Rao's *The Boyfriend*" in a Two- Day International Conference on *Semiotic Approach to Feminist Studies* organised by School Languages and Literatures, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> December 2018.
- Presented a paper on "Voicing the Voiceless: A Study of Maria Campbell's *Half breed*" in the Two-Day National Conference on *Multidisciplinary Approaches to Gender Studies* organised by Govt. College for Women, Udhampur, Jammu on 29<sup>th</sup>- 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018.
- Presented a paper on "The Voice is Heard: A Study of Canadian Aboriginals in Joseph Boyden's *Three-Day Road*" in a One Day National Seminar on *Revisiting the Subaltern: Shifting Paradigms* organised by the Department of English, the University of Jammu on 27th July, 2017.
- Presented a paper on "Sufi Aesthetics: A Study of M.G. Vassanji's "*The Assassin's Song*" in a Two-Day National Seminar on *Value Awareness and Aesthetics in Literary Criticism organised* by the Department of English, the Central University of Jammu in

collaboration with Daya Krishna Academic Foundation, Shantiniketan on  $30^{\text{th}} - 31^{\text{st}}$ March 2017.

- Presented a paper on "Reclaiming a Voice: A Study of Recasting of Sita, Draupadi, and Kunti in Shashi Deshpande's Short Stories" in an International Conference on *Beyond Postcolonialism: Rethinking Feminist and Dalit Discourses in South Asia*, organised by the Department of Languages and Literatures, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> March 2017.
- Presented a paper on "Changing Contours of Canadian Multiculturalism: A Case Study of M.G. Vassanji's *No New Land*" in a one-day National Seminar on *Changing Contours of Culture in Literature of the Twenty-First Century*, organised by the Department of English, the University of Jammu in collaboration with Professor D.K. Rampal Memorial Trust on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2016.
- Presented a paper on "Shiva Legend in Indian Tribes: A Study of Amish Tripathi's *The Immortals of Meluha*" in two days International Conference on *Challenges in Inclusiveness of the Fourth World* organised by the School of Languages, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> December 2015.
- Presented a paper on "Indian Queer: Caste, Class and Religion" in a one-day National Seminar on *In Gender: Texts and Contexts*, organised by the Department of English, the Central University of Jammu on 21st April 2015.
- Presented a paper on "Caste Issues in *Akkarmashi*" in a one-day Regional Seminar on *Bahishkrit Bharat: Remembering Babasaheb*, organised by the Department of English, the Central University of Jammu on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015.
- Presented a paper on "Alice in Translation: Issues and Contexts" in a one-day National Seminar on *In Translation: Issues and Contexts* organised by the Department of English, the Central University of Jammu, on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015.
- Participated in a National Workshop on *Accreditation Awareness & Institutional Ranking* organised by the Department of Human Resource Management &OB, Central University of Jammu, collaborating with Internal Quality Assurance Cell from 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> January 2015.
- Participated in a National Workshop on *Scholarly Writing and Plagiarism: Key Concerns* organised by the Department of Human Resource Management &OB, the Central University of Jammu from 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> October 2014.

- Presented a paper on "Media Representation of Dowry Practices in India" in a one-day National Seminar on *Dowry Murder: Gender Prejudiced Practices in India Today* organized by the Department of English, the Central University of Jammu on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2014.
- Presented a paper on "Native Soldiers, Foreign Battlefields: A Study of Canada's First People's Contribution in the Great War in *Three Day Road*" in a Two-Day National Seminar on *The Great War of 1914-Hundred Years and Beyond: Cultural and Literary Responses* organized by Department of English, the Central University of Jammu on 3rd-4th September 2014.
- Presented a paper on "Feminist Identity in Diaspora: A Case Study of M. G. Vasanji's Female Characters", in a National Seminar on *Feminist Transitions*, organized by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, on March 24-25, 2014.
- Participated in an International Conference on Policy, People and Peace-Democratization of Foreign Policy in Parliamentary Democracies: Canada, India and Beyond organized by Centre for New Literatures, Culture and Communication in collaboration with Department of Political Science, the University of Jammu from 14th -16<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
- Participated in an Interdisciplinary Workshop on *Women and Development: Canada and India* organized by Centre for New Literatures, Culture and Communication, the University of Jammu from 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> March 2009.
- Presented a paper on "Floating the Borders: Writings of the Indo-Canadian Diaspora" in a National seminar on *Language & Literature in Global Context: Perspectives & Challenges* organized by School of Languages SMVDU, Katra, J&K in collaboration with English Language Teachers' Association of India (ELTAI) J&K Chapter from 13<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> March 2009.
- Presented a paper on "Dichotomy of Literary Encounter: A Comparative, Contextual Study of Indo-Canadian Diasporic Writings" in the Ninth CLAI Biennial International Conference on *Diverse Harmonics: Literary and Cultural Confluences* held at CCL, University of Hyderabad & EFLU, Hyderabad from 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2009.
- Presented a paper on "Identity Crisis in Maria Campbell's HalfBreed" in a two-day Students Seminar on *Myths, Culture and Society: A First Nations Perspective* held at

Centre for Canadian Studies, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University, Kolkata on March 25-26, 2008.

- Participated in an International Workshop on *French Canadian Studies* held at Centre for French & Francophone Studies, School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi from 14<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> February 2008.
- Presented a Paper on "Managing Global Competitiveness: Impact on Canadian and Indian Literatures" in a National Seminar on *Managing Global Competitiveness: Canada-India Perspectives* held at MS University of Baroda from 17<sup>th</sup> -19 January 2008.
- Participated in a workshop on *Personal Aspirations and Social Responsibility* organized by International Resource Cell, the University of Jammu on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2007.
- Participated in a workshop on *Identity* organized by International Resource Cell, the University of Jammu on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2007.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- Children of Diaspora: A study of "The Time of the Peacock" published in Shodh Sarita, Volume 8, Issue 29, p. 220-223 January to March 2021,(UGC Care List) ISSN 2348-2397
- "Reclaiming a Voice: Recasting of Sita, Draupadi and Kunti in Shashi Deshpande's Short Stories" published in The Fountain Pen: Journal of English, published by the J&K Higher Education Department Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir Volume 01 Number 01 March 2018.

https://jkhighereducation.nic.in/english/vol\_1\_no\_1/the\_fountain\_pen\_english\_research\_jour nal\_Vol.1\_No.1\_March\_2018.pdf

- "Sufi Aesthetics: A Study of M.G. Vassanji's ``The Assassin's Song" published in IJELLH, International Journal of English Language, Literature in Humanities, Vol. V , Issue VII, July 2017. ISSN 2321-7065, Impact Factor 5.27
- "Theorizing Cultural Identity and Diaspora: A Case Study of M.G. Vassanji" published in *Reflections*, Vol. XV-XVIII, No. 1-4, 2017. ISSN 0973-046X
- "Texture of Identity and Paradox of Assimilation: A Comparative Study of M.G. Vassanjiís *No New Land* and Rohinton Mistry's *Such A Long Journey*" The Literati A Peer-Reviewed Journal Devoted to English Language & Literature, Summer & Winter (6.1 & 6.2) 2016. ISSN: 2248-9576

- "The Immortals of Meluha: The Journey of Shiva from Tribal Tradition to the Postmodern Fiction" published in *Muse India*, Issue 67. May-June 2016. ISSN 0975-1815
- "Multiculturalism and Diaspora: A Study of M.G. Vassanji's No New Land" published in *Illuminati*: Journal of Literary and Cultural Studies: A Journal of the Department of English and Comparative Literature and Comparative Literature, Central University of Jammu.
- "Feminine Identity in Diaspora: A Case Study of M.G. Vassanji's Female Characters" published in *New Academia*, Vol. IV Issue III July 2015. ISSN 2277-3967
- "Crossing the Borders: Writings of the Indo-Canadian Diaspora" published in *Indian Ethos.* ed. S.D Sharma, Vol. 3 No.1 Summer 2013. *ISSN 2249-4324*
- "Impact of Canadian and Indian Literature on Global Competitiveness" published in Dimensions of Competitive Relationship: Canada and India. Diasporic Writings Narratives Across Space & Time ed. Arti Nanavati . Centre for Canadian Studies; March 2010.

## **BOOK CHAPTERS**

- "Dichotomy of Literary Encounter; A Comparative Study of Indo-Canadian Diasporic Writing" in edited by Neena Gupta Vij & Raj Gaurav Verma published by Value Publications 2020, ISBN 9788194458173 pp. 166-174.
- "Sati System: A study of Sati System in Dogra Folklores" in Re-Imagine Folk Life and Literature edited by Shalini Rana, Shweta Awasthi & Preeti Oza published by Authors Press 2021, ISBN 978-93-90588-97-8 pp. 240-252

## EVENTS ORGANISED AND CONVENED

- Organizing Secretary in a Two-Day National Seminar on "Language, Literature & Communicative Skills: A Comprehensive Approach to Human Life" organized by Literary and Language Club, Department of English, Govt. P.G. College for Women, Gandhinagar, Jammu, held from 4th - 5th October 2021.
- Organized an Extension Lecture on "Dusk to Dawn: Poetic Voices in Current Times South Asia and Beyond" by Prof. Chandra Mohan organized by the Department of English, Govt. P.G. College for Women, Gandhinagar, Jammu under the banner "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava", on July 10, 2021.
- Member of the organizing committee for organizing a "National Level Online Short-Story Writing Competition" organized by the Department of English, Govt. P.G. College for Women, Gandhinagar, Jammu held on 30. 08. 2020.
- Member of the organizing committee for organizing a "Literature Festival Across the Globe" on Movie/Book Review, organized by the Department of English, Govt. P.G. College for Women, Gandhinagar, Jammu held on 15. 09. 2020.
- Member of organizing committee for organizing a "Literature Festival Across the Globe" on "Writing skills in the Present Scenario: TV Script, Radio Script, Documentary" organized by Department of English, Govt. P.G. College for Women, Gandhinagar, Jammu held on 30. 09. 2020.
- Co convened a Two-Day National Seminar on "The Great War of 1914-Hundred Years and Beyond: Cultural and Literary Responses" organized by the Department of English, the Central University of Jammu on 3rd- 4th September 2014.

### **LECTURES DELIVERED**

- As a Resource Speaker (International Webinar) delivered a lecture on "Appreciating Literature" organised by the Institute of Global Professionals, an ISO 9001:2015 & 10002: 2018 Certified Institute, on March 25, 2023.
- Delivered lecture at Edusat Hub, Govt. P.G. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on the topic " A Study of The Solitary Reaper by William Wordsworth" on March 3, 2023.

- As a Resource Speaker (International Webinar) delivered a lecture on "Teaching of Life Skills Through Literature" organized by the Institute of Global Professionals, an ISO 9001:2015 & 10002: 2018 Certified Institute, on March 12, 2022.
- As a Resource Speaker (International Webinar) delivered a lecture on "Role of Language in Developing Effective Communication Skills" organized by the Institute of Global Professionals, an ISO 9001:2015 & 10002: 2018 Certified Institute, on December 17, 2021.
- Delivered lectures at Edusat Hub, Govt. P.G. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on the topics:

"The Last Ride Together" by Robert Browning

"The Lady of Shalott" by Lord Alfred Tennyson

The Vendor of Sweets by R.K. Narayan

"The Village Schoolmaster" by Oliver Goldsmith

## **RESOURCE MATERIAL PREPARED**

- Study Material for Directorate of Distance Education, University of Jammu
  - 1. **The Force of Circumstance,** Lesson 5. Semester VI, Course: English Literature
  - 2. **Our Muddled Generation**, Lesson 1. Semester IV, Course: General English

• E-Content for J and K Higher Education Department (Cluster University of Jammu)

- i. **Forgetting,** Unit I, Prose, Semester I, Subject: English Core, Course Code: 1ENGTCCC01, Course Title: English Anthology & Grammar.
- ii. **Paragraph Writing,** Unit IV- Reading, Writing Skills, Semester I, Subject: English Core, Course Code: 1ENGTCCC01, Course Title: English Anthology & Grammar.
- iii. Note Making, Unit IV, Semester III, Subject: English Core, Course Code: 1ENGTCCC02, Course Title: English Anthology & Grammar.
- iv. Notice, Unit V, Semester III, Subject: English Core, Course Code: 1ENGTCCC02, Course Title: English Anthology & Grammar.
- v. **William Blake,** Unit I, Semester IV, Subject: English (B.A. Hons. English), Course Code: 3ENGTC0402, Course Title: British Romantic Literature

- vi. **Dalit Voices,** Unit IV, Semester II, Subject: English Literature, Course Code: 1ENLTC0201, Course Title: English Literature
- vii. Project, Unit V, Semester IV, Subject: Functional English, Course Code: 1FUEDE0602, Course Title: Personality Development.

#### **ORIENTATION COURSE ATTENDED**

UGC-HRD General Orientation Course organized by the Department of Statistics, the University of Jammu, from 18.12.2017 to 15.01.2018.

#### **REFRESHER COURSES ATTENDED**

- Successfully completed Two Week Refresher Course in "ENGLISH" 02 16 Jan 2023" organized by Teaching Learning Center Ramanujan College under the MoE sponsored PMMMNMTT scheme and obtained grade A+...
- Attended an FDP on Govt. Web Portals IT Tools from 12th to 16th December 2022, organized by the IT Committee and Department of Computer Applications in Collaboration with IQAC P.S.P.S. Govt. P.G. College for Women Gandhinagar Jammu
- Attended Online one-week Faculty Development Programme on "Neuro-Linguistic Program as a Tool in Classroom for Teachers to Enhance the Communication, Learning Skills and Personality Development" organized by the Department of Zoology, Govt. Degree College Doda from 24th May to 30th May 2022.
- Two Week Interdisciplinary Refresher course in "Advanced Concepts in Developing MOOCS" organized by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, the University of Delhi in collaboration with Devangere University, Devanegere, Karnataka under the aegis of the Ministry of Education, Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya National Mission on Teachers and Teachings from 06-20th October 2021 and obtained grade A+.
- A seven-day FDP on "Critical Theories and Their Modern Pedagogical Adequacy in the Humanities" was organized by Dept. of Languages, Manipal University, Jaipur in collaboration with the Indian Society for the Promotion of English Language and Literature from 26th July - 1st August 2021.

Two Week Faculty Development Programme on E-Teaching and Learning from 01.06.
 2020 to 15.06.2020, organized by IQAC, Govt. Degree College Bhaderwah under Higher Education Department and NAAC Quality initiatives.

## **MAGAZINES AND JOURNALS**

- "Sustainable Agriculture: NegotiatingTradition and Modernity" Vol 2 Issue
  2, Oct 2021 Vantage: journal of Thematic Analysis ISSN -2582-7391 An
  Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Multidisciplinary Journal, published by Centre for Research, Maitreyi College, University of Delhi.
- Edited the College Newsletter "Symphony" Jan- July 2022 Issue.
- Editing of College magazine, "Chander Bhaga", as a member of the College Magazine Committee.

## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

- Operating systems (Windows and MacOS)
- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)

Languages Known: English, Hindi, and functional knowledge of French, Punjabi, Urdu and Dogri.

Date of Birth: 20/12/1983.