

## SURENDRANATH COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH (IN COLLABORATION WITH THE IQAC)

PRESENTS THE
SIXTH EXTENDED LECTURE
ON

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## DISSECTING GENDER IDENTITY THROUGH A QUEER LENS

ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2021 AT 6 PM

speaker

PROF. HIYA CHATTERJEE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

SWARNAMOYEE JOGENDRANATH MAHAVIDYALAYA

(AFFILIATED TO VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY)



PLATFORM: ZOOM

MEETING LINK: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83518352837?
pwd=TDJHS3NTSHkvZGtOZlhJcTU5RUVVUT09

MEETING ID: 835 1835 2837 PASSCODE: 175137

## **Activity Report**

Name of the event: One Day Extended Lecture

Topic: Dissecting Gender Identity Through a Queer Lens

Invited speaker: Hiya Chatterjee, Assistant Professor, Swarnamoyee Jogendranath

Mahavidyalaya, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal, India

Date: 24.09.2021

Time: 6 P.M.

Webinar Platform: Zoom

Organized by: The Department of English, Surendranath College in collaboration with the IQAC

Number of Participants: 80-90 Approx.

Summary:

The event began with an inaugural address delivered by the Principal, Dr. Indranil Kar, followed by the words of inspiration by the IQAC Coordinator, Dr. Suchandra Chatterjee. The Head of the Department, Dr. Shayeari Dutta then introduced the esteemed speaker to the audience.

In her lecture the speaker attempted to unsettle a set of commonly held beliefs by positing them as questions- How is gender determined? Who determines gender? Is gender predicated only upon the body? These questions then enabled the speaker to offer an alternative 'queer' perspective through which stereotypical notions and representations of 'masculinity' and 'femininity' are challenged. In her thoroughly interactive and multimedia presentation, the speaker sought to deploy images of pop cultural icons who are subjected to similar binaristic 'gendered' scrutiny by the public, for example, the representation of American tennis player Serena Willams as 'not feminine enough'. Inviting her young audience to engage with the constructed nature of gender and sexual identities and their rootedness in patriarchal institutions, the speaker discussed the many systems of power which seek to determine identities. Here she introduced many participants to concepts such as 'queer indentities' and 'heteronormativity' and the underlying politics of representation. Alternately, she sought to problematize notions of the 'normal' and the 'abnormal' by locating them within a thoroughly patriarchal vocabulary and speaking of the particular case of the transgender community, and the forms of discrimination and violence they are subjected to. The talk was rounded off with a lively question and answer

round where undergraduate students expressed their interest in learning more about the systemic problems faced by the LGBTQIA+ community and what role individuals might play in working towards a more equitable society.

The event was brought to a conclusion with a Vote of Thanks offered by a faculty of the Department of English, Madhulina Bauri.

YouTube Link: Not Live-streamed on YouTube.

Sample Certificates: No certificates issued to participants

Event Flyer- Link of the Webinar Flyer:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zZ5JzX6wcEmqR2EO\_yA8INCljW0fqoeA/view?usp=sharing

Screenshot of the Lecture:

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