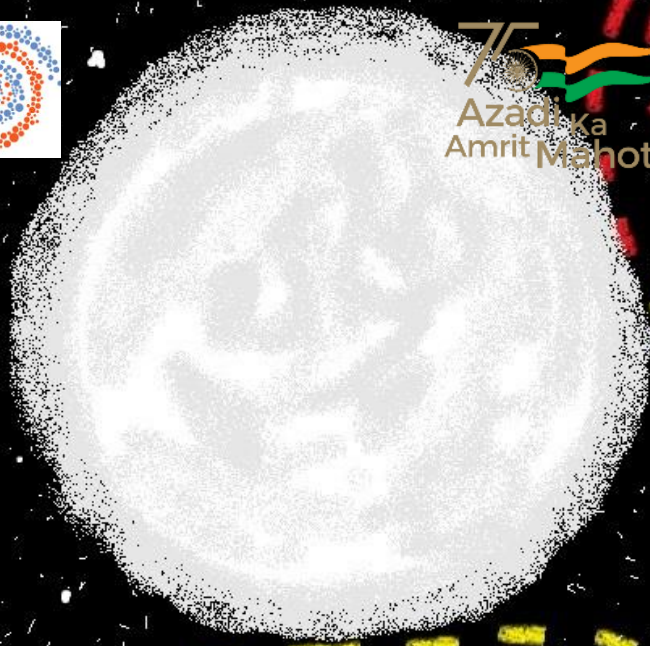




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GLA University, Mathura

in collaboration with

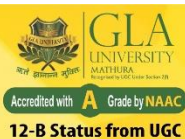
Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies®



# International Conference on Science Fiction Studies (Online)

17-20 July 2022

## Program Book



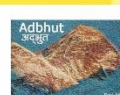
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, IAH, GLA UNIVERSITY, MATHURA  
ORGANIZES

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE FICTION STUDIES (ONLINE)

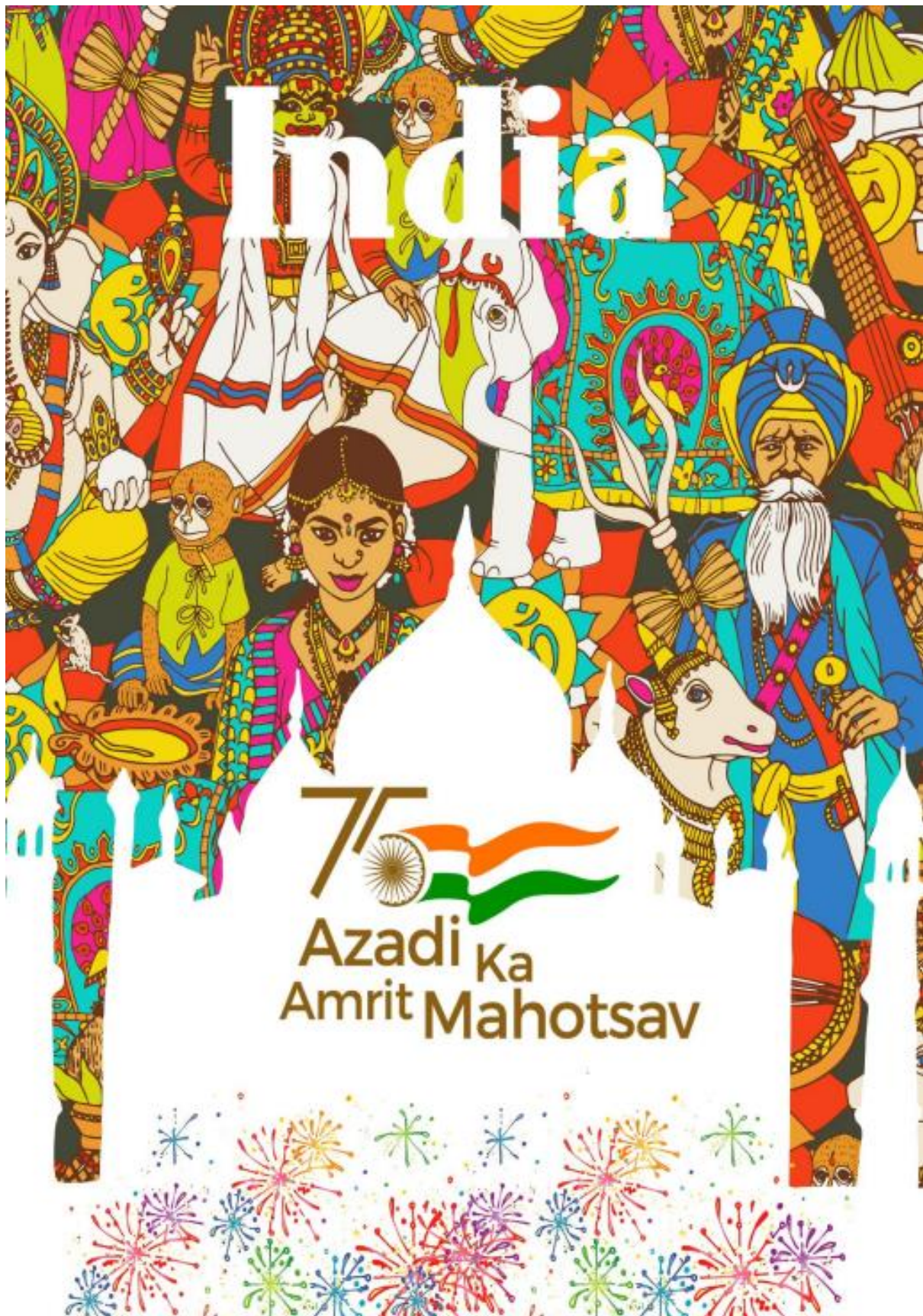
ON

17-20 JULY, 2022

IN COLLABORATION WITH







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# Welcome Messages

**Shri Narayan Das Agrawal**

Chancellor

GLA University, Mathura

281406



## Message

It is a matter of delight for me, to stand witness to holding this International Conference on Study of Science Fiction. I congratulate the Indian Association of Science Fiction Studies and all the other collaborating institutions for coming together with GLA University to make this event successful. Our main aim has been to provide a forum for discussion, facilitate integration in this field, and bring together professors, researchers, scholars, and students from all across the globe. I am sure this collaborative effort will give results in flying colours, as whenever good people come together, they make great things happen. It renders a sense of privilege to host this four-day conference (17-20, July) on our well-equipped campus in the holy land of Lord Krishna. I would like to thank the organising team for putting their sincere effort in making this conference a great success. It is gratifying to see young researchers and scholars coming up with such thought-provoking contributions in the form of their abstracts. I hope being a part of this event may prove to be a stimulating and enriching experience for the attendees. I extend my best wishes to everybody involved in this conference.



## **Prof Anoop Kumar Gupta**

Pro-Vice Chancellor

GLA University, Mathura

281406



### **Message**

It gives me immense pleasure to deliver this address on the occasion of the Opening Ceremony of this International Conference on Science Fiction Studies. Science Fiction as a genre is a vast field encompassing futuristic society, dystopias, utopias, time travel, parallel dimensions, fantasy, and many more enticing elements. Even the name 'Science Fiction' is a binary word construction. The apparent opposites of cold facts and warm fictions comprise the thrilling and intriguing domain of Science Fiction. It serves as a map for researchers, scientists, and social reformers and also portrays alternative realities and a world of uncanny possibilities.

I congratulate Dr Srinarahari, Secretary General of Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies, for bringing science fiction into the realm of critical discourse and as one of today's most discussed literary genres in Indian academia. Such reflections have the possibility of bringing about fantastic changes around us.

The old and the wise of our human civilization have relied on necessity as being the parent of the invention. In the same vein, imagination is necessary for innovation. The famous English playwright, George Bernard Shaw said, "Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine, and at last, you create what you will." We live in an era where almost all the basic necessities have already been discovered but there is always scope for some improvement and doing things differently. Writing and reading Science Fiction provides a platform for speculative imagination for the future. On this platform, I urge young minds to keep imagining and dreaming.

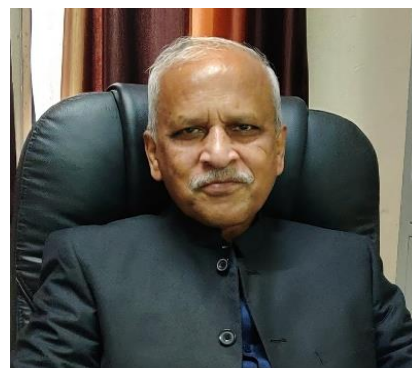
As educators and mentors to the upcoming generation, it is our duty to train young minds and enable them to live outside the box which is not possible without the development of a disciplined faculty of imagination. It is my strong belief that science fiction would serve as a medium to boost such skills by delving into the metaverse of immense possibilities. I hope this conference will open up avenues for further discussion and research. I am thankful to the Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies for collaborating with GLA University and [kalpabiswa.com](http://kalpabiswa.com), [adbhut.in](http://adbhut.in), Dept of English, KSR Institute for Engineering and Technology, Tamil Nadu, Dept of English, Elphinstone College, Mumbai, TWJ Foundation-The Social Reforms, Pagmala, Maharashtra, Department of English, Deogiri College, Aurangabad, Marathi, Vidnyan Parishad, University research Publication, Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai.

# Professor Panchanan Mohanty

Conference Chair

Head, Dept of English

GLA University, Mathura



## Message

The Department of English, Institute of Humanities and Applied Sciences, GLA University has received an excellent opportunity to engage with the best minds in India and abroad who are working in the field of inter-disciplinary studies on science fiction. Thanks to Dr Srinarahari, the Secretary-General of Indian Association of Science Fiction Studies®, Bangalore, for making time to help us organize the International Conference on Science Fiction Studies, July 2022. I congratulate Dr Kasturi Sinha Ray for organizing the conference as the secretary. I also thank the entire organizing committee for making certain the smooth completion of the conference. The team that was put together worked hard and efficiently to facilitate the participants and presenters also deserve acknowledgement and applause.

A scholarly conference is the sign of a community moving towards progress. It is not only the research in science and technology but also the research in language, literature and culture which injects a kind of life-force into a community to push forward into the domain of the unknown through uncharted waters. This conference is another such symbol. This era is destined to be led forward by integration and collaboration. With specialized knowledge becoming a cliché, the new education policies in various countries along with India have pledged to arm the young learners with a learn as you like atmosphere. A learner is enabled to choose to learn from both science and arts subjects right from the formative years. This early investment would certainly create more scope for cognitive development which will in future boost the field of science fiction along with other genres.

Literature is written in language and language is enriched by the innovative usages in literature. Thus, both language and literature combinedly a culture which is passed on orally or through written records. Therefore, our domain of research has to take into consideration and emphasize language; in this case, the language of science fiction. The following are a few pertinent questions that need our indulgence. Does science fiction play a role in bringing scientific terminologies into everyday vocabulary? Does the act of writing and reading science fiction differ from the act of creating non-sci-fi literature? Are there any special cognitive impacts on a person who has been studying sci-fi since childhood? These questions need answers which require further research. I look forward to the Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies, Bengaluru for conducting such wonderful conferences in the future. I sincerely thank and wish my very best to the entire team.



Panchanan Mohanty

Professor and Head, Department of English, Institute of Humanities and Applied Sciences  
GLA University, Mathura

## **Convener's Desk**

**Dr. R. Kanagaselvam, M.A., B.Ed., PhD.**  
**21<sup>st</sup> Conference Convener**



I am very pleased to deliver my opinion in this Conference. It is a high time that such an event took place to highlight the remarkable literary work. The purpose of this conference is to discuss the “Science Fiction Studies”.

Literature will be an evergreen field as long as human beings are alive in this universe because it is not a written document. It is a mysterious inspiration to all ages. It gives much pleasure to all souls. The IASFS records a remarkable event in the pages of history because it is the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual/6<sup>th</sup> International Science Fiction Virtual Conference.

The intension of this conference is not to make the scholars, students, professors and professionals present a paper on the given topic. It aims at bringing out the science fiction understanding of the people and the world through literature. The success of the conference depends on the collaborators.

The title science fiction brought many perspectives, opinions and suggestions from science fiction writers, scholars and professionals of every walk. At this juncture I am highly privileged to share about the sincere interest in this subject. It shows not only in literature but mind of the society too. It provides an exceptional value for academicians and researchers. It brings together leading researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experience and research results on all aspects of Science Fiction.

IASFS provides a premier platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discusses the most recent innovations, trends and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the field of science fiction.

I invite all the collaborators to give proof of their ability by using IASFS. Let us pray to God to make this Conference a great success.

**Dr. R. Kanagaselvam, M.A., B.Ed., PhD.**

21<sup>st</sup> Conference Convener &

Assistant Professor of English,

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[drkselvam@gmail.com](mailto:drkselvam@gmail.com)

7373489495.



Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal's

## **Deogiri College, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India**

Affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, A'bad

E-mail: [principal@deogiricollege.org](mailto:principal@deogiricollege.org) [admin@deogiricollege.org](mailto:admin@deogiricollege.org) Ph. No. 0240-2367330 & 2367333

Website: [www.deogiricollege.org](http://www.deogiricollege.org)

### DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Organization of the vital actives like a four-day “**21<sup>st</sup> Annual/6<sup>th</sup> International Science Fiction Virtual Conference**” during 17-20 July, 2022 by Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies (IASFS) in collaboration with University Research Publication, Valamboor, University of Kerala, Kerala; TWJ Foundation: The Social Reforms, Pagmala, Chiplun, Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra State; Adbhut.in; Bangalore, Karnataka; Kalpabiswa.com Kolkata, West Bengal; Marathi Vidnyan Parishad, Mumbai, Maharashtra; Department of Studies in English, Elphinstone College, Dr. Homi Babha State University, Mumbai, Maharashtra; Dept. of Studies in English, GLA University, Mathura, Uttara Pradesh; Dept. of English, KSR Institute for Engineering & Technology, Thiruchengode, Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu; Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Mumbai and our Dept. of English, Deogiri College, Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, Maharashtra is not only important but a dire need of the time in the context of New Education Policy of India. In the organization of such an ambitious event we are whole-heartedly participating with all our stakeholders, most particularly the dedicated teachers and the most aspiring dynamic bonafide students and research scholars.

Science fiction, a distinguished genre, remains transnational uniting the entire world for positive growth and progress any time and any part of the world. If the aim of science is to promote human welfare, then science fiction, by exploiting the contours of imagination, remains a substantial mode to the value of this cause. Science fiction explores the world of science pursued and rendered with the faculty of imagination. The developed nation of the First World has made material progress with the help of scientific exploration. The Third World countries like India need to do explorations of science for the betterment of humanity. Science fiction forges a path for the progress of the third world societies in general and the progress of minority groups, women, subalterns, the oppressed and the downtrodden in particular. Science fiction in India is becoming increasingly popular over the past decade due to the rapid progress in science and technology in India. Science fiction is a respected genre in the western world, but due to the continuous neglect of traditional litterateurs in India, it could not get the respect it deserves. There is also a linguistic problem in India and people of other languages are mostly unfamiliar with the science fiction literature being composed in 22 languages recognized by the Indian Constitution. There is a need for mutual translation between different languages and this work has to be given utmost priority. Marathi, Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Tamil and other Indian languages such as Malayalam, Punjabi, Oriya and Gujarati have a lot of science fiction being written which is an encouraging trend. Peculiarly a twentieth century genre, science fiction has tried to make sense of the rapidity of technological change and the impact which science and technology have made on our society. By imagining other worlds and possible future, the genre allows to view our present-day situation with greater detachment and perspective. The writers of science fiction are conscious of the interaction between science and society, and it is a useful tool for enlightenment of society. Issues such as stem cell research, cloning in Biology, researches into nuclear devices, and the spying capability of remote sensing satellites have raised moral-social questions. One sees today how the possibility of knowing

the sex of the unborn child can raise horrendous issues. By speculating future scenarios, a good science fiction can alert us to the possible dangers to human society.

Thus, science fiction provides new perspective to literature and life as Reginald Bretnor (1979: 273) rightly states: "Science fiction can bring a new perspective to every theme already known, and can create innumerable fresh themes, unknown today but possible tomorrow. It is not a genre. Its scope is universal. It holds the promise of an entire new literature." An eminent SF critic, James Gunn rightly comments: "The most important fact about the times we live in is that they are going to be different soon. We live in a world of change what Isaac Asimov has called – 'a science fiction world' ...and anyone who wants to read a realistic fiction turns naturally to science fiction – 'the literature of change. "The notable science fiction writer and critic Ursula K. Le Guin shares with most other science fiction writers the belief that this type of writing has a unique place in modern literature. Often quoted is Le Guin's analogy of science and science fiction as an open house: "If science fiction has a major gift to offer literature, I think it is just this: the capacity to face an open universe. Physically open, psychically open. No doors shut. What science, from physics and astronomy to history and psychology, has given us is the open universe: a cosmos that is not a simple, fixed hierarchy, but an immensely complex process in time. All the doors stand open, from the prehuman past through the incredible present to the terrible and hopeful future. All connections are possible. All alternatives are thinkable. It is not a comfortable, reassuring place. It's a very large house, a very dirty house. But it's the house we live in". Betty King shares Le Guin while stating the importance of the genre of science fiction as follows: "Science fiction is a door into a world in which men and women can be written about as a whole being, each with needs, each with shortcomings, each with strengths... science fiction, as it is today can help us piece together a composite of attractive characteristics in the creation of our own "most wonderful person in the world" ...ourselves".

Science Fiction writing movement has been started in India in a big way since 1970, however, with the organizations of such conferences and stakeholders of like-minded coming together to discuss on the issues is a sign of progress. By and large, for the constructive growth and development of science fiction all stakeholders ought to work with mutual understanding and reverence and ought to preach and practice what is said by Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose: "It would be our worst enemy who would wish us to live only on the glories of the past and die off from the face of the earth in sheer passivity. By continuous achievement alone we can justify our great ancestry. We do not honour our ancestors by the false claim that they are omniscient and had nothing more to learn." We wish all the best to the said innovative collaborative vital activity. Heartiest congratulation to Dr. Srinarahari, Secretary – General, Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, Dr. kasturi, Dr. R. Kanagaselvem, Dr. G. Sangeeta and the entire team for everything he has been doing for the growth and development of science fiction in India right from the beginning down toward the said SF conference.



**Dr. Navle Balaji Anandrao**  
Prof., Research Guide & Head  
UG, PG & Research Centre, Dept. of English  
Deogiri College, Aurangabad, MS, India



**Prof. A. V. Tejankar**  
Principal, Deogiri College, Aurangabad, MS  
Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce,  
Mumbai.

## **Conference Message**

### **Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai**

On behalf of Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai I extend my warm greetings to all the participants and organizers of 21 st International Conference on Science Fiction. We are proud to be associated as a Collaborating Institute with Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies. We are hosting the Panel Discussion on ‘Science and Poetry’. In popular imagination, science and poetry appear to be antithetical to each other. But in reality, both originate in imagination and deal with one’s experience in the world. Though poetry focuses more on emotions and science on reason, a good combination of reason and emotions can produce better poetry and at the same time, popularize science as well. Metaphysical poetry of John Donne is an excellent example of the use of science in English poetry. In Sanskrit too, a marvelous treatise on mathematics is produced in verse form called *Lilavati*;. We look forward to this conference, as a catalyst to produce not only the Rasiks who appreciate scientific poetry but also the poetic geniuses who would integrate science with poetry and thereby promote scientific temper among the masses. I wish this conference a grand success.

With warm regards,  
Dr. Pushpinder G Bhatia  
Principal,  
Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai.

## **Dr Kasturi Sinha Ray**

### **Conference Secretary**


International Conference on Science Fiction

Studies July 2022

GLA University, Mathura



It is an honour to address the dignitaries, my senior colleagues, invited speakers, guests, students and others who have been a part of this prestigious conference. When I was first working with the novels of Kazuo Ishiguro, I read a few research papers on science fiction. Reward round cloning by 06 and lot of other sociological aspects that may result from actualization of the fictitious scenarios in the novels. The genre attracts thousands of readers writers and enthusiasts throughout the world and has been popular since ages. I began reading more and realized one thing that time has an effect after removing the word fiction from the phrase “science fiction”. What we imagine today can we realized a couple of 100 years later. History has witnessed it. Leafing through the books of Jules Verne, Stevenson, and even through the epics from various civilizations, when is bound to notice how flying machines that was fantastic in those eras have become so common nowadays. When the conference general secretary of Indian association for science fiction studies approached me with the proposal of actualizing the virtual conference, I was thrilled vidhi idea of getting in touch with the best minds at work in the current scenario. Medical humanities becoming a part of the post Gov in evil people have developed a neck for understanding the logic and scientific explanation behind various natural phenomena and diseases. A lot of science fiction is A lot of science fiction is being written throughout the world in various languages. It is high time that we gather together with a single will of accumulating as much knowledge as we can in the common pool of research so that generations after may draw and quench their thirst.



**Assistant Professor**

**Department of English**

**GLA University, Mathura**



# Members of the Organizing Committee

## CHIEF PATRON:



**Shri Narayan Das Agarwal**

Chancellor, GLA University, Mathura

## PATRONS:



**Prof Phalguni Gupta**

Vice-Chancellor, GLA University, Mathura



**Prof Anoop Kumar Gupta**

Pro-Vice-Chancellor, GLA University. Mathura

## CONFERENCE CHAIR



**Prof Panchanan Mohanty**

Head, Professor  
Dept of English, GLA University, Mathura

Secretary-General, IASFS®



**Dr Srinarahari**



Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies®

## CONFERENCE CONVENER



**Dr R Kanagaselvam**

Dept of English,  
KSR Institute for Engineering and Technology, Tamil Nadu

## CONFERENCE SECRETARY



**Dr Kasturi Sinha Ray**

Dept of English, IAH,  
GLA University, Mathura

## Members of Organizing Committee



**Prof Balaji Navle**

Prof and Head, Dept of English, Deogiri College, Aurangabad



**Prof Savita Patel**

Prof and Head, Dept of English, Elphinstone College, Mumbai



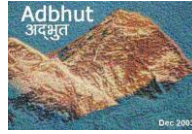
University Research Publication



Maratthi Vidnyay Parishad, Mumbai, Maharashtra



TWJ Foundation- The Social Reforms, Pagmala, Maharashtra



adbhut.in  
Sci-Fi Magazine



Kalpabiswa.in  
Sci-Fi Magazine



# Invited Speakers

- **Ms Lucie Lukacovicova** Sci-Fi Author, Prague, Czech Republic
- **Dr Deirdre Fylnn** University of Limerick, Ireland
- **Prof Mark Jancovich** University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
- **Mr Nilesh Malvanker** IT Professional, Maryland, USA
- **Dr Vasudeva SP**, Associate Director, PureSoft Pvt.Ltd.

Keynote Address: **Mr Harish Goyal** (reputed Science Fiction author in Hindi)

## About the Conference

GLA University, Mathura is organizing the 21st Annual/6th International Science Fiction Conference from 17th to 20th July, 2022. The conference is going to be held in both onsite and online modes. Eminent science-fiction scholars, scientists and IT professionals from UK, USA, Ireland, and other places will address the conference and share their experiences of writing and discussing the futuristic aspect of science and technology under the banner of science-fiction. Dept of English GLA University invites educationists, faculty members, researchers, authors and science-fiction enthusiasts to this conference, confluence of arts and science.

## Call for Abstracts

The human species is moving into the era of genetic engineering, interstellar travel, AI revolution, birth of the anti-matter and so on. While scientists keep pace with these aspirations, science fiction complements the mood, creating debates world-wide and weighing the pros and cons of the future. Time has been deleting "fiction" from the body of knowledge, literature and culture we categories under the term "science fiction". Whether it is DNA sequencing or a submarine, or an aircraft, science, innovation and technology guided by human imagination has made all of it possible. The ethical parameters are being remodelled to cater to the latest quality of material existence. However, perils of war, evil and annihilation of the human race loom large behind one wrong move. In this regard research is the only way to bring all the aspects of science and Sci-Fi into popular discourse thereby raising awareness and initiating newer ideas.

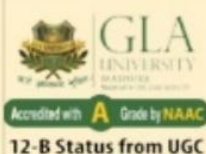
Celebrate India's 75 years of Independence "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" with us by being a part of this mega event.

### **SLOTS: Science Fiction, Literature, Open-ended**

**Papers and poster presentations are welcome on the following themes:**

- Science, technology and fiction
- Gender and sci-fi
- Women sci-fi authors
- Sci-fi and popular culture
- Language and sci-fi
- Science fiction written in vernaculars
- Scope of sci-fi
- Pandemic and sci-fi
- Medical humanities and sci-fi

- Teaching sci-fi in undergraduate, post-graduate and certificate courses
- Science-fiction and ethics
- Memory studies and sci-fi
- Machines and sci-fi
- Science fiction and the future



GLA UNIVERSITY, MATHURA in collaboration with Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies organizes **International Conference on Science Fiction Studies 17th-20 July 2022**

**List of Participants registered with GLA University, Mathura**

Sr No.	Name	Paper Title
1	Dr. Amanpreet Kaur	Impact of Science and Technology on Indian and Western Fiction
2	Tasnova Sarmin	War, Science Fiction, and the Future World: A Study of H. G. Wells' Things to Come (1936)
3	Usha Arunima	Dystopian destination or Utopian imagination: A Study of Ursula Le Guin's The Dispossessed: An Ambiguous Utopia and George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four
4	Dr. Anchal Dahiya	Manjula Padmanabhan's Harvest as a Dystopian Science Fiction
5	S. V. Janani & Dr. K. Thayalamurthy	An Analysis of Lauren Oliver's Delirium as a Dystopian Novel
6	Anisha Kaul	Prison, Panopticon and Forced Parenthood: The Parallel Universe of Sci-fi Movie Vivarium
7	Argha Basu	Desensationalizing Rape in Rajendran's The Lesson (2015)
8	Dr. Abhishek Kumar Jaiswal	Blade Runner Series: A Probe on Ethnicity and Artificial Humanity
9	Ms. Meenal R. Kale	Cyberpunk- A Dystopian, dehumanized High-Tech Future in Indian SF Virus
10	Sujith C	Body/Space/Sprawl: Exploring Liminality and Heterotopia in William Gibson's Neuromancer
11	Manodip Chakraborty	Anamnesis of the Dimensions: Semantic Memory and Perceptual Cognition about Parallel Multiverse
12	Rajendra Tambile	Greg Egan's Treatment of Scientific Laws in Schild's Ladder for the fulfillment of Human Desires
13	Dr Reshmi S	Feminist Images of the Future in the Selected Writings of Women Sci-fi Authors
14	Sana Altaf	The Future of Female Cyborgs: Marge Piercy's He, She and It
15	Antara Choudhury & Dr. Shreyashi Mukherjee	Gender Fluidity in Octavia E. Butler's Lilith's Brood
16	Prachi Agrawal	Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Herland : Feminist Science Fiction.
17	Varsha Kumari	Changing Gender Roles in Science Fiction
18	Tehzeeb Node & Dr Milind Solanki	Gender roles in Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale
19	Dr Inderjeet Kaur	A Syncretic Search Sans Spatio-Temporal Spaces – Sultana's Dream: A Case Study in Bengali Feminist Science Fiction
20	Stuti Rag	Women Science Fiction Authors
21	Dr. Astha Pratap	Science Fiction from the Perspectives of the Women Authors



22	Rasmita Panigrahi	Escape by Manjula Padmanabhan: A confederacy of Ecofeminism with Fantasy
23	Stuti Lal	Balancing the 'Space': A Feminist Study of Select Characters in the Sci-Fi Cinematic Universe
24	M. Jenifar & Dr. N. Sathiyarajan	A study of Gender Inequality in Joanna Russ's "When it Changed"
25	Piyush Kumar	The Construction of the Artificial Human as an emerging species in Ian McEwan's Machines Like Me
26	Dr.Nisha Dubey	Mankind against 'Machinehood'- a Si-Fi venture of S.B.Divya
27	Sonia Anurag Dubey	Image Recognition Using Artificial neural networks: Possibilities and Challenges
28	Shibasambhu Nandi & Dr. Bhumika Sharma	Science Fiction and Machines: A Stint with Artificial Intelligence in Daniel H. Wilson's Robocalypse
29	Divya Shikhar & Dr Kasturi Sinha Ray	Visualizing through the Technological 'Other': A Study of Kazuo Ishiguro's Klara and the Sun
30	Judah Jangam	Posthumanism view in Enthiran
31	Seema Rajendra Kulkarni	Hacked
32	Jitender Singh	Impact of Science in Society in H G Wells' The Invisible Man
33	Aditya Raj & Dr. Stuti Prasad	Science in Robinson's Science Fiction: A Study of Mars Trilogy
34	Abhinav Anand	The Menace of "Merit": An Intersectional Analysis of Discourse of Science in Manu Joseph's Serious Men
35	C. Tina Joshly & Dr. S Logarajan	Destructive nature of technology in Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451
36	Anupama Murali & Jasir M P	Life transitions in older adults: A study on old age trauma and technological solutions based on Malayalam feature films Android Kunjappan version 2.5 and Home
37	Syed Sirajuddin Quadri & Dr. Santhosha G.K	Wildlife and Human Exploration: An Adventurous Journey into a Forest in K P Poornachandra Thejaswi's Karvalho
38	Dr. Ruby Christie.L & D. Pradeek	Colonizing Mars: Futuristic Aspects of Terraforming in Kim Stanley Robinson's Mars Trilogy
39	Dr Sapna Dogra	History and Memory in Tarun K. Saint's "A Visit to Partition World"
40	Dr Barnali Saha	Illustrating the Alienated [Br]Other: Problematizing the Alien Image in Select Bengali Science Fiction
41	Dr. Ruby Christie L and Gokul Priya	Exophilia and Motherhood in Ursula K. Le Guin's The Dispossessed
42	Ruchika Rathore	Time Travel: Unfolding expansion of Science Fiction and its popular culture
43	Dr Raman Kumar	Threat of Pandemic Leads to Surge of Science Fiction: A Study
44	Darshika Choudhary & Shree Ram Malani	Marvel Universe: The Coming-of-Age Sci-Fi Universe

45	Dr. Meeta Sharma	Science Fiction and Ethics
46	Reena Bhagat	Technology and Teaching of Science Fiction: A Study of Effectiveness of Teaching Aids in Effective Teaching of Science Fiction
47	Dr Suseebharathi T	Identity Crisis in Hyperreal World through Selected English Science Fiction Films
48	Shaji Khan	Mapping Postmodernism through Connectionist Analysis in Selected Short Stories of Philip K. Dick
49	Dr Shakun Mahajan	The Genesis of ProtoScience Fiction: A Study of Margaret Cavendish's The Blazing World
50	Mansi Binani	Exploring Spiritual Ecofeminism and Magical Realism in Vandana Singh's "The Woman Who Thought She Was a Planet"
51	S. Lavanya & Dr. V. Sangeetha	A Psychological Analysis of Octavia Butler's Anyanwu of Wild Seed
52	Dr. Bandana Devi	Search for Self in the Religious Dimensions of Arthur C. Clarke's Science Fiction Novel Rendezvous with Rama
53	Aparna Sharma	Understanding and Exploring the Science Fantasy in Children's Literature
54	Suman Kushwaha	The new trend of science fiction in children's literature: A Study
55	Preetha Prabhasan	In Search of the Ultimate Weapon: A Study of Deep Within by C Radhakrishnan
56	Dr. Kiran Kalra	Science Fiction in Dogri Language: A Study of 'A Better Way of Life'
57	Dr Kailash Kumar	Religious and Scientific Dimensions in Isaac Asimov's "Nightfall"
58	Kaushalkumar Hareshbhai Desai & Dr. Anuragsinh D. Puvar	A Critical Study of Art & Science in the select Graphic novels of Alan Moore
59	Baseerat Chowdhary	The power Theory : Simulation from the codes of social relations and social power
60	M. Pravena & Dr. N. Sathiyarajan	Nature of Revenge in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein
61	Abhirami CV	Shape Shifting Pasts: Sci-Fi and Myth in Breaking the Bow
62	Naveen Kelvin Dalmeida	Politics of Power: A New Historicist Reading of Ursula Le Guin's The Left Hand of Darkness
63	Dr Rippy Bawa	Subalternity and the Political Aesthetics of Adivasi Resistance in India
64	Mohd Irfan	Socio-Realistic Approach in the Novels of Kamala Markandaya
65	Upendra Singh	Socio-cultural Consciousness in Chetan Bhagat's Female Protagonists
66	M. Salma Banu & Dr. D.E Benet	Affective Encounters and Reflexive Responses: Disability and the Gaze in the Short Story Good Country People by Flannery O' Connor



67	Dr Rupali Sharma	Cultural Dominance through Technology and Consumerization: An analysis of Effects of Technology on Popular Culture
68	Pranshul Gautam	Teaching of English Language and Culture
69	Shubhanchhi Pandey	Science-fiction and Ethics
70	Patel Umangkumar Jagdishbhai	Examination of the impact and effect of science fiction movies/films on students' interest and learning
71	Rohit Trivedi	BLACK POWER: A study of black superhero characters in America
72	Mohammed Afsal	Science Fiction

Sunday, 17 July 2022, International Conference on Science Fiction Studies, July 2022 Schedule Overview	
	<p align="center"><b>Zoom Meeting Link</b>  <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=K1lRekxhOkp4cE5LOWErcnZEMW1ZZz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=K1lRekxhOkp4cE5LOWErcnZEMW1ZZz09</a>  <b>Meeting ID: 871 9696 0243</b>  <b>Passcode: 202989</b></p>
(Indian Standard Time)	<b>Programs</b>
9:00	"Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" celebration
Followed by	<b>Inaugural Function/Opening Ceremony</b> 1. Invocation: Ganesh Vandana (dance) and Saraswati Vandana 2. Welcome (GLA University) (Anchor begins conference) 3. Opening Speech (About the Conference): Secretary-General, IASFS Bangalore 4. Address: Pro-VC (Prof Anoop Kumar Gupta), GLA University 5. Address: Conference Chair: Prof Panchanan Mohanty, Head of Dept. English, GLA University
Followed by	<b>Keynote Address: Mr Harish Goyal</b> <b>Moderator: (not yet finalized)</b>
Followed by	<b>Live Camera:</b> Introducing the team members who worked behind the
Followed by	<b>Video Play (About Vrindavan) (Dance Performance on Lord Krishna and Vrindavan by Prof Kavita Verma, Head Department of Education, GLA University, Mathura)</b>
12:15- 13:30	<b>Panel Discussion</b> Topic: Recent Trends in Indian/South-Asian Science Fiction Panelists: Mr. Dinker Charak, Entrepreneur & Product Manager, Bangalore. India Webmaster: <a href="https://www.adbhut.in">https://www.adbhut.in</a> ; Mr. Sumit Kumar Bardhan, Science Fiction Author, Translator and Critic, Bangalore. India Dr. Vandana Singh, Professor of Physics and Environment, Framingham State U, USA Dr. Suparno Banerjee, Associate Professor, Chair, English Library Committee, Department of English, Texas State U, USA. 3 Moderator: Mr. Gautham Shenoy T, Eminent Science Fiction critic & columnist, Bangalore



Monday, 18 July 2022, International Conference on Science Fiction Studies, July 2022									
Schedule for Paper Presentation Session: Day 2									
Zoom Meeting Link:	14:00- 15:30 Dystopias & Alternate Realities Meeting ID: 871 9696 0243 Passcode: 202989 <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=KURkckh0bGp4eE5lQWVrcmZEMWVlZz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=KURkckh0bGp4eE5lQWVrcmZEMWVlZz09</a>				14:0-15:30 Dystopias & Alternate Realities Meeting ID: 876 0386 6465 Passcode: 689260 <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOTlhiMDdlazFpRUlXeklMZlh5Zz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOTlhiMDdlazFpRUlXeklMZlh5Zz09</a>				
	Session 1: Dr. Purnendu Bikash Debnath				Session 2: Ms Saloni Priya				
	Sr No	Paper Title	Presenter	Time	Sr No	Paper Title	Presenter		
14:00-15:30	1	Impact of Science and Technology on Indian and Western Fiction	Dr. Annapreet Kaur		1	Desensationalizing Rape in Rajendran's The Lesson (2015)	Argha Basu		
	2	War, Science Fiction, and the Future World: A Study of H. G. Wells' Things to Come (1936)	Tasnova Samin		2	Blade Runner Series: A Probe on Ethnicity and Artificial Humanity	Dr. Abhishek Kumar Jaiswal		
	3	Dystopian destination or Utopian imagination: A Study of Ursula Le Guin's The Dispossessed: An Ambiguous Utopia and George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four	Usha Annamma		3	Cyberpunk: A Dystopian, dehumanized High-Tech Future in Indian SF Vires	Ms. Meenal R. Kale		
	4	Manjula Padmanabhan's Harvest as a Dystopian Science Fiction	Dr. Anchal Dahiya	14:00-15:30	4	Body/Space/Sprawl: Exploring Liminality and Heterotopia in William Gibson's Neuromancer	Sujith C		
	5	An Analysis of Lauren Oliver's Delirium as a Dystopian Novel	S. V. Janani & Dr. K. Thayalamurthy		5	Anamnesis of the Dimensions: Semantic Memory and Perceptual Cognition about Parallel Multiverse	Manodip Chakraborty		
	6	Prison, Panopticon and Forced Parenthood: The Parallel Universe of Sci-fi Movie Vivarium	Anusha Kaul		6	Greg Egan's Treatment of Scientific Laws in Schild's Ladder for the fulfillment of Human Desires	Rajendra Tambale		
Zoom Meeting Link:	15:45-17:15 Gender & Science Fiction Meeting ID: 871 9696 0243 Passcode: 202989 <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=KURkckh0bGp4eE5lQWVrcmZEMWVlZz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=KURkckh0bGp4eE5lQWVrcmZEMWVlZz09</a>				15:45-17:15 Gender & Science Fiction Meeting ID: 876 0386 6465 Passcode: 689260 <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOTlhiMDdlazFpRUlXeklMZlh5Zz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOTlhiMDdlazFpRUlXeklMZlh5Zz09</a>				
	Session 3: Dr Kasturi Sinha Ray				Session 4:				
	Sr No	Paper Title	Presenter	Time	Sr No	Paper Title	Presenter		
	1	Feminist Images of the Future in the Selected Writings of Women Sci-fi Authors	Dr Reshmi S		1	Science Fiction from the Perspectives of the Women Authors	Dr. Astha Pratap		
	2	The Future of Female Cyborgs: Marge Piercy's He, She and It	Sana Alnaf		2	A Syncretic Search Sans Spatio-Temporal Spaces – Sultana's Dream: A Case Study in Bengali Feminist Science Fiction	Dr. Inderjeet Kaur		
15:45-17:15	3	Gender Fluidity in Octavia E. Butler's Lilith's Brood	Antara Choudhury & Dr. Shreyashi Mukherjee		3	Women Science Fiction Authors	Sunil Rag		
	4	Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Herland : Feminist Science Fiction.	Prachi Agrawal	15:45-17:15	4	Escape by Manjula Padmanabhan: A confederacy of Ecofeminism with Fantasy	Rasmita Panigrahi		
	5	Science-fiction and Ethics	Shubhanchhi Pandey		5	Balancing the 'Space': A Feminist Study of Select Characters in the Sci-Fi Cinematic Universe	Sunil Lal		
	6	Gender roles in Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale	Tejzeeb Node & Dr Milind Solanki		6	A study of Gender Inequality in Joanna Russ's "When it Changed"	M. Jenifar & Dr. N. Sathyanarajan		

**Tuesday, 19 July 2022, International Conference on Science Fiction Studies, July 2022**

Schedule for Paper Presentations Session: Day 3									
11:30- 12:45 Machines, Science & Technology Meeting ID: 871 9696 0243 Passcode: 202989		11:30- 12:45 Machines, Science & Technology Meeting ID: 876 0386 6465 Passcode: 689260							
Zoom Meeting Link:	<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=KjRlckh0Qkp4cE5lQWVlc0ZEMW1ZZz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=KjRlckh0Qkp4cE5lQWVlc0ZEMW1ZZz09</a>	Zoom Meeting Link:	<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOTlhiMDdlazFpRU1Xek1MZlh5Zz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOTlhiMDdlazFpRU1Xek1MZlh5Zz09</a>						
Session 5: Dr. Saloni Priya		Session 6: Dr. Abhishek Kumar Jaiswal							
Time	Sr No	Paper Title	Presenter	Time	Sr No	Paper Title	Presenter		
11:30-12:45	1	The Construction of the Artificial Human as an emerging species in Ian McEwan's Machines Like Me	Priyush Kumar	1	Hacked		Seema Rajendra Kulkarni		
	2	Mankind against 'Machinehood' - a Si-Fi venture of S.B.Divyaa	Dr.Nisha Dubey	2	Impact of Science in Society in H G Wells The Invisible Man		Jitender Singh		
	3	Image Recognition Using Artificial neural networks: Possibilities and Challenges	Sonia Anurag Dubey	3	Science in Robinson's Science Fiction: A Study of Mars Trilogy		Aditya Raj & Dr. Stuti Prasad		
	4	Science Fiction and Machines: A Stint with Artificial Intelligence in Daniel H. Wilson's Robopocalypse	Shibasanblu Nandi & Dr. Bhumika Sharma	4	The Menace of "Merit": An Intersectional Analysis of Discourse of Science in Mann Joseph's Serious Men		Abhinav Anand		
	5	Visualizing through the Technological 'Other': A Study of Kazuo Ishiguro's Klara and the Sun	Divya Shikhar & Dr Kasturi Sinha Ray	5	Destructive nature of technology in Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451		C. Tina Joshy & Dr. S Logarajan		
	6	Posthumanism view in Enthiran	Judah Jangam	6	Life transitions in older adults: A study on old age trauma and technological solutions based on Malayalam feature		Anupama Murali and Jasir M P		
13:00- 14:30 Extraterrestrial & Travel narratives Meeting ID: 871 9696 0243 Passcode: 202989		13:00- 14:30 Study of Science Fiction Meeting ID: 876 0386 6465 Passcode: 689260							
Zoom Meeting Link:	<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=KjRlckh0Qkp4cE5lQWVlc0ZEMW1ZZz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=KjRlckh0Qkp4cE5lQWVlc0ZEMW1ZZz09</a>	Zoom Meeting Link:	<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOTlhiMDdlazFpRU1Xek1MZlh5Zz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOTlhiMDdlazFpRU1Xek1MZlh5Zz09</a>						
Session 7:		Session 8: Manodip Chakraborty							
Time	Sr No	Paper Title	Presenter	Time	Sr No	Paper Title	Presenter		
1	1	Wildlife and Human Exploration: An Adventurous Journey into a Forest in K.P.Poornachandra Thejaswi's Karvalho	Syed Sirajuddin Quadri & Dr.Santhosha G.K	1	Threat of Pandemic Leads to Surge of Science Fiction: A Study		Dr Raman Kumar		

13:00-14:30	2	History and Memory in Tarun K. Saint's "A Visit to Partition World"	Dr. Sapna Dogra	13:00-14:30	2	Marvel Universe: The Coming-of-Age Sci-Fi Universe	Darshika Choudhary & Shree Ram Malani
	3	Illustrating the Alienated [Br]Other: Problematizing the Alien Image in Select Bengali Science Fiction	Dr. Barnali Saha		3		
	4	Time Travel: Unfolding expansion of Science Fiction and its popular culture	Ruchika Rathore		4	Technology and Teaching of Science Fiction: A Study of Effectiveness of Teaching Aids in Effective Teaching of Science Fiction	Reena Bhagat
	5	Colonizing Mars: Futuristic Aspects of Terraforming in Kim Stanley Robinson's Mars Trilogy	Dr. Ruby Christie L & D. Pradeek		5	Identity Crisis in Hyperreal World through Selected English Science Fiction Films	Dr. Suseebharathi T
	6	Exophilia and Motherhood in Ursula K. Le Guin's The Dispossessed	Dr. Ruby Christie L and Gokul Priya		6	Mapping Postmodernism through Connectionist Analysis in Selected Short Stories of Philip K. Dick	Shaji Khan
15:00-16:45		15:00-16:45 Study of Science Fiction Meeting ID: 871 9696 0243 Password: 202989				15:00-16:45 Study of Science Fiction Meeting ID: 876 0386 6465 Password: 689260	
		Zoom Meeting Link: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=K1REkxhMQp4cE5LQWVrcmZEMW1ZZz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=K1REkxhMQp4cE5LQWVrcmZEMW1ZZz09</a>				Zoom Meeting Link: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOUlhmMDJlZjZpRUJXek1MZlZlZz09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87603866465?pwd=SVpOUlhmMDJlZjZpRUJXek1MZlZlZz09</a>	
	Session 9			Session 10			
15:00-16:45							
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6	The new trend of science fiction in children's literature: A Study	Suman Kushwaha	6	Shape Shifting Pasts: Sci-Fi and Myth in Breaking the Bow	Abhirami CV
7	In Search of the Ultimate Weapon: A Study of Deep Within by C Radhakrishnan	Preetha Prabhasan	7	Politics of Power: A New Historicist Reading of Ursula Le Guin's The Left Hand of Darkness	Naveen Kelvin Dalmeida

**Wednesday, 20 July 2022, International Conference on Science Fiction Studies, July 2022**

<b>Schedule for Paper Presentation Session: Day 4</b>				
		<b>12:00- 13:30 Cultural Studies</b> <b>Meeting ID: 871 9696 0243</b> <b>Passcode: 202989</b>		
		<b>Session 11</b>		
<b>Zoom Meeting Link:</b>		<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=K1lRekxhQkp4cE5LOWErcnZEMW1ZZz06">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=K1lRekxhQkp4cE5LOWErcnZEMW1ZZz06</a>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Sr No</b>	<b>Paper Title</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	
12:00-13:30	1	Subalternity and the Political Aesthetics of Adivasi Resistance in India	Rippy Bawa	
	2	Socio-Realistic Approach in the Novels of Kamala Markandaya	Mohd Irfan	
	3	Socio-cultural Consciousness in Chetan Bhagat's Female Protagonists	Upendra Singh	
	4	Affective Encounters and Reflexive Responses: Disability and the Gaze in the Short Story Good Country People by Flannery O' Connor	M. Salma Banu & Dr. D.E Benet	
	5	Cultural Dominance through Technology and Consumerization: An analysis of Effects of Technology on Popular Culture	Dr Rupali Sharma	
	6	Teaching English Language and Culture	Pranshul Gautam	
		<b>14:15- 15:30 Study of Science Fiction</b> <b>Meeting ID: 871 9696 0243</b> <b>Passcode: 202989</b>		
<b>Zoom Meeting Link:</b>		<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=K1lRekxhQkp4cE5LOWErcnZEMW1ZZz06">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87196960243?pwd=K1lRekxhQkp4cE5LOWErcnZEMW1ZZz06</a>		
		<b>Session 12</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Sr No</b>	<b>Paper Title</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	
14:15-15:15	1	Changing Gender Roles in Science Fiction	Varsha Kumari	
	2	Examination of the impact and effect of science fiction movies/films on students' interest and learning	Patel Umangkumar Jagdishbhai	
	3	BLACK POWER: A study of black superhero characters in America	Rohit Trivedi	
	4	Science Fiction	Mohd Afsal	
	5	Cli-fi and Dystopia: An Inquiry into the Genre of Indian C	Sohini Chakraborty	
	6		Adra P Kumar	
	7	A Critical Study of Art & Science in the select Graph	Kaushalkumar Hareshbhai Desai & Dr. Anuragsinh D. Puvar	
	8	Science Fiction and Ethics	Dr. Meeta Sharma	



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<b>19</b>	Manjula Padmanabhan's Harvest as a Dystopian Science Fiction <i>Dr Anchal Dahiya</i>	<b>42</b>
<b>20</b>	In Search of the Ultimate Weapon: A Study of <i>Deep Within</i> by C Radhakrishnan <i>Preetha Prabhasan</i>	<b>42</b>
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## **The Construction of the Artificial Human as an emerging species in Ian McEwan's *Machines Like Me***

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**Keywords:** Posthuman, Artificial Human, Identity, Dystopia, Alternative History, Science-Fiction

Ian McEwan's *Machines Like Me* (2019) is set in an alternate past in the year 1982 in a technologically advanced society like today. It imagines a time when Alan Turing is still alive and became a well-known figure in the field of Artificial Intelligence. The major character in the story is an artificial human named Adam who is owned by Charlie and his girlfriend Miranda. The plot revolves around their complex and ambiguous relationship with the synthetic human which turns out to be a love triangle. The present study will discuss the arrival of Artificial humans as a new species that showcases issues related to the entanglement of humans and machines in a techno-cultural posthuman society. The novel raises the question and reinforces the debate that the development of AI-enabled humanoids may lead to a time of technological dystopia or a troubling posthuman future if the machines outsmart humans. The aim of the paper is to critically analyze the miraculous depiction of a posthuman world where there is a radical shift in the concept of the existence of human beings since the collision of new identity construction with the advent of conscious and symbiotic humanoids which is akin to humans.

## **Illustrating the Alienated [Br]Other: Problematizing the Alien Image in Select Bengali Science Fiction**

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**Keywords:** Darko Suvin, Bruno Bettelheim, symbolic wound, Uncanny, Freud, Bengali science fiction, robots, aliens, graphic science fiction, Bonkubabu's Bondhu

In science fiction criticism, estrangement has been one of the guiding themes since Darko Suvin defined science fiction as creating a "cognitive estrangement." However, according to my understanding of SF, the primary function of SF is not only to make familiar things strange, but also to problematize the contingencies associated with our psychological understanding of the "Uncanny" other. Theoretically aligned with Bruno Bettelheim's idea of Symbolic Wounds, the current research paper reads a series of selected Bengali science fiction narratives to understand the representation and illustration of the concept of the Other. The paper seeks to critically investigate Bengali Science fiction's tendency to introduce marvelous elements into a seemingly realistic world, thereby dramatizing estrangement at a diegetic level. The paper has a twofold aim: it first studies the illustration of the alienated other in the science fiction graphic narrative *Harano Graher Jantra Manob* (The Robots of the Lost Planet) by Shaktimoy Biswas and second, it carries that understanding in the further problematization of the theme in selected narratives of Adrish Bardhan, Leela Majumder and Satyajit Ray. The paper is deeply interested in Satyajit Ray's uniquely humanitarian vision of an alien in Bonkubabu's Bondhu and reads it as a seminal text for its imaginative construction the uncanny other and its subversion of the conventional concept of threat posed by modern science to traditional human values as explored by the other writers of Bengali science fiction.

## Threat of Pandemic Leads to Surge of Science Fiction: A Study

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**Keywords:** Science fiction, Sci-Fi, SF, Surge, Threat, Pandemic, Escapism, depression, fantasy

Science fiction is defined as a narrative form (usually in prose) of short story, novella or novel length that deals with an area of varied topics from space and time travel to future worlds of utopian or dystopian visions. It can also be about alien invasions, geological changes, ground-breaking inventions and interplanetary warfare. It is related to the corpus of literature which employs the technique of placing the reader in an unfamiliar or different world. Hence the reader can view the real world from a fresh perspective and recognise its failings and shortcomings. During times of pandemic like the one the world underwent just now, Science fiction gains all the more importance due to two reasons. First during the pandemic when the things happen unexpectedly and people find it difficult to get an answer to their questions about the cause of the pandemic, all try to find an answer through science fiction and scientific fantasies and secondly during the time of pandemic when the people sit huddled in their homes and have nothing to do, the Sc-Fi is what attracts their attention.

## Marvel Universe: The Coming-of-Age Sci-Fi Universe

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**Keywords:** Multiverse, Marvel Comics, Marvel Cinematic Universe, *Fantastic Four*, Norse Gods.

Marvel Comics are the brainchild of Stan Lee and Jack Kirby. In the year 1961, Lee and Kirby began writing comics about super-humans and super-heroes to encourage people and also to help them relate to the situations going on in America of the times. The comics developed into huge franchises and are considered as a part of the literature. When we talk about Marvel Cinematic Universe, it is a collection of movies, short films, web-series and cartoons which are developed from the comics. Science fiction is an important part of the series. In Sci-Fi, we see the use of scientific and technological advances based in the current times, sometimes we see time travels, space travels, life on other planets, etc. Marvel comics and cinematic universe display the stories of super-humans and super-heroes fighting the evil in the world with the help of their technology. The stories also take place in 'multiverse' which provides another element of sci-fi. Currently, the MCU is divided into four phases, which is full of crossovers from high-school kids to Gods. The first ever comic book, *Fantastic Four*, which established the Marvel Universe, is about a scientist who tests an experiment where they fly through cosmic-rays resulting in getting super-hero powers. After this, Marvel never looked back, they wrote about scientists, monsters, high-school kids, and the stories even relate to mythological figures/Gods like in the case of Thor and Loki (the Norse Gods).

## Science Fiction and Ethics

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Science fiction is the bridge between what we envision for the far future and what we see in practice today. By showing us the possible dream worlds or living hells, such works of art touch upon the most relevant moral, ethical, social or political issues linked to technological progress. It seems to be speculative fiction because it is based on speculations about the future of humanity.

Since times immemorial, one of the most pressing questions of mankind has been what the future has in store for us? What will it look like and how can we prepare for it? Before the Industrial revolution and the age of Enlightenment, the Gods and Goddesses and their mouthpieces such as prophets and oracles had all the answers. In the latest centuries of rapid technological progress, instead of the Gods, technology is interrogated constantly about the future. It is a vivid conversation. It makes us think, debate and learn. And it's not a one-way street, but rather a strong interaction – while science fiction feeds on the ground that technology offers, it also gives ideas about how to build a better world for our children.

Science fiction is the natural home of discussion of ethics. One of the major concerns of science fiction is 'Ultimate issues'. Among them are the fate of man, the fate of the universe, the ideal society, etc. A. Bertram Chandler used to say he loved writing Science Fiction because it gave him enough room to kick around ideas and see if they help. One has the power to do things 'In the laboratory' with actually no harm to the real world. One can destroy the universe, tear societies apart, postulate any form of God one likes, then do it all over again.

An extraordinary amount of science fiction (SF) carries significant content of a moralistic nature consistently reflecting concerns about social becoming nested within the context of the times the works were written. As a rule, it is perilous to lump an entire genre into any single orientation, but in the case of Science Fiction and ethics there are strong connections especially in the classic works familiar to the general public. It makes a lot of sense when one considers that ethics is much about consequences; this genre is much about illuminating them.

### History and Memory in Tarun K. Saint's "A Visit to Partition World"

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**Keywords:** Tarun K Saint, partition, history, memory, India, science fiction.

Tarun K. Saint is an independent scholar and writer. His work focuses on partition of India and its aftermath. He edited *The Gollancz Book of South Asian Science Fiction*, Volume 1 and 2. The present paper focuses on a study of his short story "A Visit to Partition World" (2019) in relation to the issues of dislocation, memory, historical consciousness and futuristic technology. While most science fiction looks at time travel, dystopia, technology, it is very rare to read a sci-fi work on the Indian partition of 1947. In the area of sci-fi, this story occupies a unique space. The story is a futuristic take on the memory of Indian partition and its commercial use in the creation of an entertainment park named "Partition World". The paper argues that it is through the trope of 'perspectives' that the author offers interesting narratives that negotiate the issues of identity, home and belongingness. His work can be an interesting read for neo-historicists as he touches upon the major events of history but depicts them by employing a poetics of perspective.

## Gender Fluidity in Octavia E. Butler's *Lilith's Brood*

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This paper will use Afrofuturism as a critical framework to assess the gender fluidity in Octavia E. Butler's science fiction trilogy *Lilith's Brood*. Octavia E. Butler (1947-2006) is the first black woman science fiction writer in America. The term Afrofuturism first coined by Mark Dery in 1993 talks about speculative fiction which use African American themes to suggest liberation from oppression. Butler uses the science fiction device of aliens to incorporate gender fluidity with the evolution of the posthuman.

Butler's trilogy envisions an alternative reproductive technology between two races and three genders. A construct child which is genetically-engineered has five parents, two humans, two aliens and a genderless parent who are all engaged in equal parenting. Butler subverts traditional gender roles and biological essentialism by making the children sexless at birth thus negating the human concept of social construction of gender. The sexless construct takes up a gender after undergoing metamorphosis. Thus, gender or gender roles are not forced leaving room for uncertainty and ambiguity. Butler also uses the trope of shape-shifter to dismantle gender hierarchies and pave the way for gender fluidity. It results in transgression of boundaries of strict hierarchy and social constructivism prevalent in the human world.

## Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *Herland* : Feminist Science Fiction.

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**Keywords:** Feminism, Utopia, Science-Fiction, Motherhood, Happiness.

This research looks at the work of Charlotte Perkins Gilman's, *Herland*. She was a utopian feminist writer. *Herland* was published in 1915. This book is the middle volume in her utopian trilogy. It was preceded by *Moving The Mountain* (1911), followed by a sequel with *Her in Ourland* (1916). It is a feminist science fiction. *Herland* is a female society. Feminist science fiction represents the theme of Utopia & Dystopia. It portrays the equality between the genders. Gilman's *Herland* is presented as something attainable and achievable without any war, violence, and disputes; also, it represents an ideal utopian society.

Magnificent utopia *Herland* is clean and tidy, brilliantly organized, peaceful, located in a remote area. It is a perfectly developed society with their system of Education and Economy. They also do social services. Relationships and Marriage have different meanings. Motherhood is happiness for them. As a feminist novel about an isolated country of women, the novel serves an idealistic viewpoint. Gilman has brought this imaginary world into reality. It is a most notable feminist science fiction. Science fiction has a very close relationship with feminism because it is tough to constitute relations between the sexes by usual political reform. Sci-fi has had a particular affection for feminism and this attraction is mutual.

## **Science Fiction and Machines: A Stint with Artificial Intelligence in Daniel H. Wilson's *Robocalypse***

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Contemporary science fiction attempts to capture the current evolutionary image of the universe. Artificial replication and imaginary duplication are the main focuses of the ongoing science fiction. In this new science fiction world, everything is in a hyper-functional state, wherein artificial beings or models are mixed with humans. Due to this development, the present-day humans incline to use artificial machines which are modeled like humans, but indubitably with more power and more intelligence. The machines, which were introduced to save the world, sometimes are shown working almost like the destructive forces. The present paper attempts to explore the changing roles of machines from preservers to the destroyer. It would like to look into the factors, which persuade them to attack humans. It will also try to analyze the implications of artificial intelligence that partake in machines' desire to control human civilization and explain how it may affect the human-machine interface in future.

## **Body/Space/Sprawl: Exploring Liminality and Heterotopia in William Gibson's *Neuromancer***

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"Today's science fiction is tomorrow's science fact."- Isaac Asimov

The human body is the most organic object of our reality. Almost all the cultural formations have been centered around the human body. From religion to law, institutions are established to sustain and control human nature through corporeal systems. The theory of cybernetics is directly related to notions of totalitarian control through reconfiguring systems and the body is perhaps the most intricate and volatile system available to humans. Therefore, it is essential to reevaluate our relation with the physical body in the age of rampant technological advancements which includes a wide range of enhancement devices from pacemakers to bionic limbs. All these enhancements turn the body from a being into as much as a thing with complex circuitry. All of these trends can be traced back to the beginning of modern science fiction – Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1818).

Science Fiction as a literary genre has defied the normative concept of Body since Mary Shelly's *Frankenstein* (1818). William Gibson's *Neuromancer* (1984) illustrates that with rampant augmentation the human body can become a liminal site of heterotopic interaction. The line between bodies and the space they interact with becomes obsolete within *Neuromancer*. With the recent advancements in digital human interfacing, such a possibility seems not too distant. This paper aims to illustrate liminality through examining various instances from the novel as limonoids of cyberculture. This paper relies heavily on textual analysis and is therefore a basic attempt to interpret the cyborgian body as a threshold towards the continuation of liminality.



## **Wildlife and Human Exploration: An Adventurous Journey into a Forest in K P Poornachandra Thejaswi's *Karvalho***

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**Key Words:** Wildlife, Human Exploration, Scientific adventure and Human desires

This paper explores the wildlife and human exploration in the forest through the scientific adventure of a scientist: Carvalho in the Western Ghats in Karnataka. It is one of the famous novels of Poornachandra Thejaswi, a prominent figure in the modern Kannada literature. The protagonist goes in search of an extinct flying lizard and eventually finds but unfortunately fails to capture it. Throughout the journey the author narrates the human culture and their relationship with the wildlife. He focuses on how humans are exploiting the wildlife in order to fulfill their desires. It also discusses the evolution of the extinct lizard and compares it with other creatures. This scientific adventure also reveals the myth of wildlife and the folks who live in the forest. The first half of the novel discloses the pastoral life of south Indians and their culture then the narration takes to the wildlife.

## **A Syncretic Search Sans Spatio-Temporal Spaces – Sultana's Dream: A Case Study in Bengali Feminist Science Fiction**

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Indian Literature has a rich and varied history, and amidst the precious treasure, on closer analysis, a networked syncretic tradition is revealed, such that literary works transcend across boundaries of classification. It is remarkable to note that early vernacular literature in India is no less varied and rich than any other in the world, and vernacular authors have independently arrived at ideas which are generally attributed as having Western origins. This paper will present an evaluation of a short story *Sultana's Dream*, written in 1905, by Rokeya Sakhawat Hussain, a woman writer of Bengali origin. The story, which deals with an Amazon-like utopia, depicts a world closely modeled on Islamic principles, with the exception that gender roles are reversed. Men are forced to observe purdah, and women take charge in domestic and professional spheres. This story, which has obvious social and religious overtones, is perhaps one of the earliest examples of feminist science fiction written in any language, exemplifies a rich tradition of syncretism in Indian Literature. This paper will attempt to trace this fusion in *Sultana's Dream*, and will analyze its significance from a contemporary critical point of view, highlighting both its importance from historical as well as literary points of view.

## **Identity Crisis in Hyperreal World through Selected English Science Fiction Films**

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Literature is referred to as the reflection of life when science fiction becomes one of the branches under the tree of literature which brings the mirror of a future life with the influence of technologies and science which illustrates the next phase of life with help of a current scenario. In the virtual era, films play a vital role to bring the experience of the science fiction genre more lively using technologies. Movies also represent a community's traditions, religious beliefs, social issues, and human crises etc., In the fast-growing world due to the development of technologies in the field of film making lots of science fiction films have been produced which bring lots of ideas to imagine and foreseen our future world. The invention of Artificial intelligence (AI) is underway to govern the individual and the public life which is the vision of the last decade. When it went out of control of human beings it started to capture the reality of society and convert into a world of hyperrealism. The impact of Artificial intelligence on people has been forcing them to move out of real lives. This article tries to bring out the existence of a real person and an AI person in the RPG world controlled by the hyperreal situation portrayed in the selected Hollywood science fiction films *Free guy* and *Ready player one*.

## **Feminist Images of the Future in the Selected Writings of Women Sci-fi Authors**

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**Keywords:** Women Science Fiction, Utopia, Alien, Outer Space and Female Identity.

The literary genre of Science Fiction was a male oriented realm for a long while but the era of 1960's witnessed the emergence of a subgenre called Feminist Science Fiction. The writings of Sci-fi women explored, experimented and presented feminist images of the future which in turn provided a varied glance of science and technology and even interrogated the male bastion of the conventions of Science Fiction. The paper analyzes the speculative realities articulated by the prominent Sci-fi women writers like Octavia Butler, Ursula Le Guin, Alice Sheldon, Joanna Russ among others. The study deftly sketches the techniques and strategies of these writers to assert women's role as a perceiver and dynamic agents of change through the creation of a Utopian world, exploration of 'alienness', use of Female Revenge Fantasy, employment of Novum- outer space, cyborg, Transmogrification etc. It is reflected that the selected writers attempt to erase the gender differences, inequalities and imbalances that exist in reality. Feminist Science Fiction thus ponders the possibilities to speculate worlds and futures in which women are not restricted by the rules and roles rather guide them to navigate through the pathways of liberation. The world of Science Fiction opens up myriad and multi- dimensional arenas of female self -assertion.

## **Mapping Postmodernism through Connectionist Analysis in Selected Short Stories of Philip K. Dick**

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Connectionism is a theoretical framework which is based on the processes by which information processing is performed in the brain. To understand and analyze data, models are designed which mimic the neural pathways of the brain. The neural networks follow the same design patterns and functionality as neurons in the human cognitive systems. This research paper will attempt to present a framework for literary criticism in which a Connectionism would be introduced as a paradigm under which selected short stories of Philip K. Dick would be analyzed using neural network models, and indicative features of the text would be extracted. A Postmodern critique of the texts would then be applied to these features in an attempt to locate the text within the paradigm of the applied theory. Finally, an attempt would be made to create a Connectionist model of the text, which will be useful in further comparative analysis of the text. Philip Dick is one of the foremost science fiction writers, who laid down the foundation for modern science fiction. This paper will present a Connectionist perspective on Dick's selected short stories and discuss key features extracted with the help of neural network models.

### **The Future of Female Cyborgs: Marge Piercy's *He, She and It***

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In a world where technology is at its all-time high and where power is exercised in more covert ways than could have been imagined previously, the apocalyptic future, as prophesied in the dystopian literature is upon us and as such this literary genre is more relevant today than it ever was. Given the current scenario, one could undoubtedly opine that the vision of dystopian texts has come true about the present rather than about the future. As the gulf between speculative fiction and political reality continues to narrow, the popularity of feminist dystopian fiction persists. These texts raise uncomfortable questions not only about pervasive gender inequality, misogyny, and violence against women but also the disastrous practices of an oppressive capitalist government and the dreary conditions brought forth by a reckless immersion in the technologies of the time. This paper attempts to analyze how Marge Piercy, in her feminist dystopia *He, She and It*, envisions a post-apocalyptic world wherein she explores and subsequently deconstructs the universalist stereotypes about gendered identities by addressing themes such as the representation of women and their bodies, reproduction, and sexuality. It sets out to explore how the author projects a network of strong and dynamic female characters who work to maintain a utopian impulse in the otherwise bleak dystopian society.

## **Mankind against ‘Machinehood’- a Si-fi venture of S. B. Divya**

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**Key words:** Sci-fi, machines, technology, future

**Science fiction** (sometimes shortened to **sci-fi** or **SF**) is a field of tentative fiction that usually deals with ingenious and futuristic concepts such as advanced science and technology, space exploration, time travel, parallel universes, and extraterrestrial life etc. . It is indeed the "literature of ideas", and it often surveys the impending consequences of scientific, social, and technological innovations. Science fiction divided in several subgenres can trace its roots back to ancient mythology. This fiction inspires and influences a “sense of wonder” when it is collaborated with literature, film, television, and other media. Besides providing entertainment, it can also criticize present-day society and explore alternatives. As per American science fiction author and editor Lester del Rey “... the lack of a "full satisfactory definition" is because "there are no easily delineated limits to science fiction."

We –the Human, always hunt for having more comfort zones for ourselves and in this endeavor, we are fabricating ‘n’ numbers of machines and technologies. Sci-Fi steals a look in the future window and narrates us about life then and there. Women being more instinctive, imaginative and emotional are making their mark in the whole new genre of Sci-fi literature. ‘Machinehood’ the imaginative creation of author S.B. Divya, conveys the message of over use of machines and the Don’ts that need to apply. An old saying ‘Science is a good servant but a bad master’ will never lose its effect on our working portfolios. It’s creepy to quote from book ‘*All forms of intelligence have the right to exist without persecution or slavery- the Machinehood Manifesto, March 20, 2095*’. It’s high time to judicially plan our working and thinking, taking Sci-fi creative outcomes as a guiding torch. They definitely instruct us regarding: ‘What may happen!’ and sometimes even ‘How it can be avoided’.

### **Balancing the ‘Space’: A Feminist Study of Select Characters in the Sci-Fi Cinematic Universe**

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Science and technology have mostly been dominated by men, as they are assumed to be better capable at handling everything that is a combination of steel and wires. Keeping the matters of the Earth aside, only 12% of the total astronauts who have been to space are women. Just like the other genres in literature, Sci-fiction, too, acts like a mirror to the society, despite being somewhat away from what is called ‘the tangible and real world’. Women’s portrayal in the world of sci-fiction has been limited and mostly jarring. Out of the many books and films produced, on female astronauts, ‘*Stowaway*’ (2021) and ‘*Gravity*’ (2013) are known for their remarkably neutral and powerful portrayal of their central characters. With the history of feminist science fiction dating back only to the 1960s, the feminist study of these characters would open a refreshing new pathway for a better future representation in the genre which otherwise might tag them as the ‘others’. As speculated, if space is the future of humanity, an effort must be made to leave behind the earthly wises before we change our address.

## **Manjula Padmanabhan's Harvest as a Dystopian Science Fiction**

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*Harvest* by Manjula Padmanabhan is a science fiction that depicts a dystopian postmodern world that is rotten by technological and medical advancements. It depicts a posthuman world, the technological advancements by humans have altered the concept of bodies and identities. The advancement in science and technology has commoditized human bodies. As a result, human identities have undergone a drastic transformation. Padmanabhan has portrayed a futuristic world in which the communication between humans and machines is much more intensive. The communication between animate and inanimate objects is primarily governed by phenomenal technological advancements in a globalized world. Manjula Padmanabhan is one of the very few contemporary Indian playwrights who comments upon 'cyborgology' or intimate human-machine relationships in her works. The play throws light on various issues like organ trade, postcolonial hegemony, and cybernetic culture. The identities of the characters in the play are digitized using various devices like "video couch" or "contact module." The research paper will compare and analyse the dystopian elements in the science fiction *Harvest*.

## **In Search of the Ultimate Weapon: A Study of *Deep Within* by C Radhakrishnan**

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**Key Words:** Sci Fi, messianism, apocalypse, Bhagavad-Gita, spirituality

This paper deals with a few themes Science Fiction are always obsessed with. The prominent one is the search for and development of an ultimate pre-warning system and cure to the natural calamities, pandemics and other afflictions which play havoc with everyday life. But this invention at once has the power of a biological weapon for mass control and apocalyptic destruction if it reaches the wrong hands. (The double-edged power of science to be both destructive and protective/constructive/creative at once). It also shows how the use of Indian philosophical ethics is delicately woven into the sophisticated warfare of the minds, science and data. The story incorporates references to numerous philosophical, religious, or spiritual ideas, among others the dilemma of choice vs. control, the brain in a vast thought experiment, messianism, and the concepts of interdependence and love. Besides providing entertainment, the novel also criticizes present-day society and explores alternatives. It also exposes the criminal nexus involving the power hungry and the trading sharks. It is also amazing to see the heroic roles women play in this novel. C Radhakrishnan, a prominent Keralite author who won both National and State academy awards and noted for a unique perspective on science and life, depicts how a young couple fights unarmed against a global criminal gang. They do it by putting the Bhagavad Gita into practical use.



## **War, Science Fiction, and the Future World: A Study of H. G. Wells' *Things to Come* (1936)**

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Science fiction writers often seek out new scientific and technological developments to prognosticate freely the consequent social changes that will shock the readers' sense of cultural propriety and expand their consciousness. This approach was central to the work of H. G. Wells, a father figure of the genre and likely its greatest writer. We find close affinity of Wells for aggressive satire and utopian political agendas, as well as its dire prediction of technological destruction. H. G. Wells also devotes his attention to previews of possible future developments of civilization that are predominantly optimistic. Among the better known of his publications in that field are *The Time Machine* (1895), *The War of the Worlds* (1898), *When the Sleeper Awakes* (1899), *A Modern Utopia* (1905), *Men Like Gods* (1923), and *The Shape of Things to Come* (1933). The works of Wells are Utopian in the sense that he held a firm belief in the progress of mankind toward perfection; hence, he confidently pictured a bright future. *Things to Come* (1936) is a British black and white science fiction film, and is based on his 1933 novel *The Shape of Things to Come*. A combination of apocalyptic destruction and eventual salvation at the hands of both science and technology structured the film and it brought together several visionary influences to shape its view of where human culture was heading. This study aims to examine how from the old world's ruins, a new one, with a distinctly futuristic look, arises. This study will also try to critically analyze how war works as a catalyst which leads to scientific progress or technological utopia in a society

## **Technology and Teaching of Science Fiction: A Study of Effectiveness of Teaching Aids in Effective Teaching of Science Fiction**

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**Keywords:** Teaching of Science Fiction, Anthropology and Genre films

Tools for teaching students how to question intelligently are badly needed. Science fiction provides many such tools in a variety of subjects by stimulating the imagination and thus motivating students to learn. Such vehicles are available at all grade levels. From Mark Twain and H.G. Wells to Anne McCaffrey and Isaac Asimov, novels and short stories provide the grist for discussion in such subjects as psychology, history, sociology, anthropology, English composition, and science. Genre films and television shows can also be used to provide reading motivation and subject area content. This paper provides examples of how librarians and teachers can use a wide range of science fiction materials as teaching aids. This paper tries to attempt the tools and their effective use in today's world.

# **Dystopian destination or Utopian imagination: A Study of Ursula Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*: An Ambiguous Utopia and George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four***

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**Keywords:** fundamental, drastic, proffer, utopia, dystopia, plausible, menacing, sinister.

An Island on which all becomes clear,  
Here you can stand on the solid ground of proof.  
Here are no points of interest except the point of arrival.  
The bushes fairly grown under the weight of answers.  
Here grows the tree of Right Conjecture  
with branches disentangled since all-time past.

(Wisława Szymborska, *Sounds, Feelings, Thoughts: Seventy poems*, 270:1981)

Science-fiction is a contemporary concept of literary writings and film adaptations. The term's meaning presents a scenario of imaginations which has a fundamental and drastic distinction in their nature and functioning style from the ordinary universe of ours. Most of the time, the locale of these types of novels and films are set in another space or planet. Sometimes, future society on earth also gets projected and filmed in sci-fi novels and films. The type of narratives in which specific efforts are placed to proffer the possibility of a fictional universe with reference to imagined or plausible scientific theories and laws is what we call science-fiction. A projection of highly technological organization of society or some extreme diversions in administration and society is given the grand presentation in the sci-fi genre of literature and films. *Frankenstein*, a brilliant science-fiction by Mark Shelley, published in 1974, is considered as predecessor of science-fiction, but the base line of fictional universe on exclusive and logically proven scientific theories, seems to appear in later nineteenth century in fictional works, such as *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells and *Journey to the center of the Earth* by Jules Verne. The literal meaning of Dystopia is bad place. Writers employ it in sci-fi and fictional literary works to represent an extremely dreadful place or universe where menacing and sinister disposition of present political, social, communal and technological actions are turning into destructive climaxes in the future. On the other hand, the term Utopia stands for an ideal, happy, perfect universe. Thomas Moore, the Renaissance socialist, introduces the term in his Latin book *Utopia* in 1515-16 as a universe which is perfect. Ursula Le Guin is one of the greatest authors, creators and admirers of fantasy and science-fiction. Guin's *The Dispossessed* is brilliant creation of fantasy and fictional sci-fi proposal of an upcoming utopian future whereas, the famous satirist, scholarly author George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949) is an attack or criticism of contemporary society's concept of extremely advanced science technologies. Present proposed research paper is a detailed critical study of reactions and actions of sci-fi on contemporary societies. Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-four* and Guin's *The Dispossessed* are the main components of the research paper. This Research paper aims to analyze the dystopian concept by Orwell's book *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and synthesize it with Guin's *The Dispossessed*, which imbibes both theories of utopian and dystopian and their effects on societies.

As if this were a place just for the leaving  
and for immersion in a depth with no return.  
In a life that's not for comprehending.

(Wisława Szymborska, *Sounds, Feelings, Thoughts: Seventy poems*, 270:1981)

## **Destructive nature of technology in Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451***

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**Keywords:** independent thoughts, book burning, censorship, ignorance, atomic war

Ray Bradbury wrote the novel, *Fahrenheit 451*. It is about a dystopian society which lacks knowledge, information, independent thought, and freedom. The author discusses the importance of knowledge, and how its absence can affect the people in the society. In this society the firefighters start the fire instead of extinguishing it. The government controls the thoughts and curiosity of the people by burning books. Guy Montag, the protagonist of the novel, is a firefighter who starts out to be a very ignorant person. He burns books and enjoys it. This novel is about his journey on discovering the importance of knowledge in an ignorant society. Montag and his wife Mildred were ignorant until he met Clarisse, his neighbor. She made him question his career, his happiness and even his marriage. After talking to Clarisse, Montag realizes he's been ignorant for his whole life and begins a dangerous search for knowledge. He asks questions and becomes even more curious. He even thought about why the government wants to burn the books. After eventually stealing a book and reading it Montag realized that knowledge is really important. Montag no longer believed that ignorance was bliss. The author subtly reveals the advantages and disadvantages of knowledge and ignorance by contrasting the characters Montag and his wife Mildred. Montag symbolizes knowledge, while Mildred symbolizes ignorance. The government controls the society in the novel. The absence of knowledge among the people allows the government to maintain control over them. Television and radio distract the government from destroying all forms of knowledge. With the lack of knowledge, the government controls society, keeping people locked in ignorance. They are in a world where they don't ask questions, don't care for each other, and do things without thought. The government tries to protect themselves by giving tasks to burn books which contain various opinions that are controversial and information that the government does not want most of their society to know about.

## **Impact of Science and Technology on Indian and Western Fiction**

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**Keywords:** Science Fiction, Indian English Literature, Surgery, Regional Science Fiction, Body, Ugly, Pretty

Science Fiction is a popular genre and it brings forth both science and fiction which is particularly good at reflecting times of wide change. Science always provides society with fresh ideas, new techniques and new insight into the contemporary situation as a result technological change brought open change in the cultural and social life of a man in general. Science Fiction in Indian English Literature faced a massive resistance from regional SF as it was more popular and was able to draw its readers. Majority of SF stories are narrated by blending anticipated and uncertain incidents and it is all made possible by the world of technology. Many famous SF writers wrote in regional languages but recently Indian science fiction written in English

has become popular instead of the original fiction. Writers like Samit Basu as well as Anil Menon and Vandana Singh and many others have contributed to this and it is only time that Science Fiction in Indian English Literature becomes a much sought-after avenue. With such a wealth of available novels to choose from within the science fiction genre, it was crucial that I selected novels that best represented the issues I wanted to explore. In this paper I have tried to explore the contribution of Indian English writers in the field of Science Fiction and have taken two writers one is Scott Westerfeld, an American writer and another is JY Yang, a Singaporean writer. I have selected one novel written by Scott Westfield named *Uglies* and a novella by JY Yang named *Shorthand Bodies*. My attempt is to illustrate the impact of science and technology upon the modern youth and the future generations through the stories of selected writers. With the involvement of science and modern techniques, a wide change has been witnessed in the behaviour, life styles, temperaments, thought process and several other aspects of day-to-day life. Modern life is utterly dependent upon science and specifically the existence of modern youth cannot be imagined without it.

### **An Analysis of Lauren Oliver's *Delirium* as a Dystopian Novel**

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**Keywords:** repressive, blight, Amor deliria nervosa, unsettling, nagging

The purpose of this paper is to analyze Lauren Oliver's *Delirium* as a dystopian novel which shows the vivid portrait of the lives of teens in repressive society and nagging questions that can be applied to our world today. As an American writer, she wrote the *Delirium* trilogy with futuristic ideas and made love as a strong emotion in this novel. Oliver's strong lead in this novel, Lena falls in love with Alex, who lives in the wilds. The heady romance between them shows the dystopian future vision of America where love is considered as a disease called Amor deliria nervosa and the government has convinced society is a blight which needs to be wiped out. As the story is set in 2091, everything is controlled by the government from the music to the news. Mandatory curfews are in place, enforced by nightly patrols and ID cards. Also, every city is walled off from the outside world (the Wild), where rebels known as Invalids live free from the cure. The undercurrent of government control is deeply unsettling and menacing; Oliver's *Delirium* shows that sometimes people can make people make decisions you would never choose. The final vision of Oliver is to make people think of the unimagined society where love is strictly prohibited.

### **Religious and Scientific Dimensions in Isaac Asimov's "Nightfall"**

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**Keywords:** Issac Assimov, Nightfall, Social Science Flction, Scientific Temper, Religion, Tradition, Book of Revelation

This paper focuses on the religious and scientific dimensions in Isaac Asimov's "Nightfall". Isaac Asimov coupled his creative and imaginative capability with his scientific temper to lend a new voice to the genre of science fiction. Asimov's story "Nightfall" is an example of hard science fiction as it intends to have sensible scientific support. However, "Nightfall" is a fine illustration of the Social Science fiction genre as it relates to the social and technological

progress of humanity. "Nightfall" relates a scientific phenomenon and its consequence on human society, especially in religious terms. Instead of creating a duality between science and religion, Asimov's story merges scientific attitudes with the legends and traditions mentioned in the religious books. The key concern of this paper is to articulate the impact of religious texts and the cultists on the findings and observations of the scientists. Here the interesting point to note is that Aton, the chief scientist of Lagash, searches for technical clarification for the ending of the world only after he has agreed to the reality envisaged in the Book of Revelation. In the process, he puts back clarification regarding the dark cave as propounded in the Book of Revelation in order to propose the hypothesis of universal gravitation and the eclipse brought by the moon.

### **Time Travel: Unfolding expansion of Science Fiction and its popular culture**

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**Key words:** Sci-fi; science fiction studies; fantasy; films; science in popular culture.

Science fiction is a genre of speculative fiction which typically deals with imaginative and futuristic concepts such as advanced science and technology, space exploration, time travel, parallel universes, and extraterrestrial life. It has been called the "literature of ideas", and it often explores the potential consequences of scientific, social, and technological innovations.

This paper attempts to explore the progress of Sci-fi from Books to comic to cinema with technological advancements. Sci-fi became popular for both writers and audiences with technological developments over the past 150 years. But we can trace its roots back to ancient mythology and is related to fantasy, horror, and superhero fiction, and contains many subgenres. While exploring the possible themes of alien invasion, time travel, and other fantastic events. Science fiction soon found a receptive host in movies and television as well. The television series Star Trek, The Empire Strikes Back and The Return of the Jedi became the openers to current popular Avengers, Thunderbirds, Jurassic Park and Captain Nova etc.

### **Politics of Power: A New Historicist Reading of Ursula Le Guin's *The Left Hand of Darkness***

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**Keywords:** Science-fiction, New Historicism, Power, Politics, American Politics, Hegemony

On 20 July, 1969 humanity explored new frontiers as Neil Armstrong became the first man to step foot on the moon. At the start of that year, on January 20, Richard Mihuon Nixon took oath as the 37<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America. Ursula Le Guin published *The Left Hand of Darkness* (hereon referred to as *Left Hand*) in March of that very year. Five eventful years later, on 8 August 1974, Nixon formally resigned from the presidency in the aftermath of the Watergate scandal. This paper will attempt a new historicist reading of Le Guin's novel in light of the political atmosphere of the United States at the time, including the moon landing and the events leading up to Nixon's resignation. A comparison will be made with the power



and political dynamics at play with regard to the major political characters of *Left Hand* and with the American politics in play at the time. As co-texts, Nixon's first inaugural address and his televised resignation speech will be utilized. The manner in which the ambisexual setting of the novel alters the dynamics will also be discussed.

### **Changing Gender Roles in Science Fiction**

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**Keywords:** SF, survival, women, popular trope, speculative fiction, apocalypse, nuclear disaster, interstellar habitat, American TV Series,

Although science fiction is defined and dominated by men, it has a particular affinity with feminism. The impact of feminism can be observed throughout the history as evident in the works of Frank Herbert, Ursula Guin, Octavia Butler, Pat Cadigan, Robert Tapert among others. Women have written SF as well as they have appeared as key characters in SF too. Winner of Saturn Award in 2015 and MTV Fandom Award, American TV Series *The 100* is one in the line of this genre where women are represented as decision-makers and lead the human species to the best available surviving condition with their skill and readiness. Characters like Clarke Griffin, Octavia Blake, Lexa, Raven Reyes and Becca Franko prove to be more assertive in their action than their male counterparts. In the pursuit of survival, they take tough decisions and save the human race. In this TV Series we see the softer as well as stronger roles of the female. Refuting the oft-referred notion of biological determinism, female characters of this series confront all post-apocalyptic hardships and stay in front to be in the game of survival. Projection of such kinds of characters on Netflix and TV creates a liberating sensation among female viewers and adds to the possibility of acceptance of their changing roles in society, a new place for such heroines in contrast to the same of the past where they were portrayed more as docile and submissive. As we see that apocalyptic myth is one of the popular tropes in contemporary narratives, so its accessibility is wide and deep.

### **Colonizing Mars: Futuristic Aspects of Terraforming in Kim Stanley Robinson's Mars Trilogy**

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**Key Words:** Hard sci-fi, Terraforming, Space Elevators, Russell Cocktail, Genetic Engineering, Space Mirrors

Science fiction is a creative genre which explores the other world which exists in the imagination. It consists of a wide range of themes such as journey into space, time travel, futuristic advancement in science and technology and consequences related to it. Science fiction is divided into two broad categories: Hard sci-fi and soft sci-fi. Hard sci-fi novels are based on scientific facts and inspired by "hard" natural sciences like physics, chemistry, and astronomy. Kim Stanley Robinson is one of the most acclaimed hard Science fiction writers. His use of science is far behind the knowledge of a layman. This paper explores in detail the futuristic aspects of Terraforming like space mirrors, drilling moles, Russell cocktail, nuclear

explosions in permafrost to release water, genetic engineering and space elevators which Kim Stanley Robinson has advocated in his most acclaimed Mars Trilogy (Red Mars, Green Mars, Blue Mars) to colonize mars.

### **Cyberpunk: A Dystopian, dehumanized High-Tech Future in Indian SF Virus**

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**Keyword:** cyberpunk, extraterrestrials

Cyberpunk -is a subgenre of science fiction project a future where humans are trapped in a dehumanized, high-tech future leading to a dystopian future. The Indian Science fiction by Jayant Narlikar's titled Virus deals with cyberpunk and the destruction through it. The fiction raises the question of human existence on the earth with technological advancement. The objective of the present endeavor is to explore destruction through computers. The fiction portrays a future where automation is affected with virus planted by extra- terrestrials; and how the future society and government will become wimpy and pathetic due to cyberpunk. It portrays a gloomy vision of the future where mankind can become a victim of cyberpunk which can lead to a dystopian dehumanized high-tech Future

### **Image Recognition Using Artificial neural networks: Possibilities and Challenges**

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**Keywords:** Image Recognition, ANN, Computer Vision, Image Classification, neural networks.

Image Recognition is the ability of a computer to identify the correct image with feature extraction and classification. This ability of computers is called computer vision. Artificial neural networks achieved success in various areas such as industrial surveillance Automatics, transport, civil engineering for image recognition. This Paper represents the role of Artificial Neural Networks in Image recognition with Possibilities and challenges.

### **The Power Theory: Simulation: From the Codes of Social Relation and Social Power**

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**Keywords:** Simulation, Reality, Simulacra, Signs, Commodities

The present study entitled "The Power Theory: Simulation: from the codes of Social relations and Social Power". Baudrillard's work is characterized by a historical awareness of the literary tradition and the practice of writing typical of postmodernism. This is a qualitative work through the lens of Hyper reality to study exaggeration in postmodernism. Although simulation is a major term in Baudrillard's vocabulary, it is not his 'key' concept or primary idea, as is sometimes assumed. Indeed, the phrase has largely vanished from Baudrillard's work over the last two decades. It does, however, play a significant part in the development of Baudrillard's theories, the link between real' and simulated, as well as between simulacra and

simulation, is one of Baudrillard's most misunderstood concepts, hence its explication is critical. Simulacrum is a Latin word that means "image," "semblance," or "likeness." The material element of the simulacrum, the image as thing, as fashioned and produced, is emphasized by the Oxford English Dictionary. Baudrillard explores the phases or stages of the image in modern Western culture from the Renaissance to the present day, theorizing the orders of simulacra' (plural form). Baudrillard, who was influenced by Nietzsche and Pierre Klossowski, considers the simulacrum to be entire or total: "everything" is simulacra (2005d: 39–47). There are only images or illusions; there are additional images 'beyond' images; and there is no moment where the last illusion is torn away to reveal...reality. The concept of 'reality,' then, is an illusion in and of itself, and one of recent origin; Baudrillard situated the development of the concept of 'reality' within the orders of simulacra (1998b: 23, 2005d: 39). Of course, the concept of 'reality' is not static. The first order of simulacra appears, with its clear binary oppositions of real/unreal and true/false. The concept of the 'real' reaches its pinnacle in the second level of simulacra, where life, sex, and labour are regarded as absolute realities.

### **Exophilia and Motherhood in Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Dispossessed***

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**Key words:** ecophilia, women and nature, motherhood, environmental issues

Ecophilia proposes that human beings in general develop an innate desire to connect with nature. It is believed that the gradual development of ecophilia is gained as the result of millions of years of evolution in the natural environment. Nature has always been represented as woman, a mother. Nature is paralleled with women because it shares the same qualities with them. Women are seen as being pious, moral, pure, gentle, kind, graceful, simple, beautiful and unpredictable in accordance with nature. Ursula K. Le Guin is one of the most distinguished authors of contemporary science fiction. Her works are concerned with profound rhetoric concerning gender roles, questioning human psychology, patterns of behaviour, inner desire of characters and connected with social and environmental issues. This paper attempts to study the perspectives of gradual development of ecophilia and parallels motherhood of nature and woman in Ursula K. Le Guin's novel *The Dispossessed*.

### **Visualizing through the Technological 'Other': A Study of Kazuo Ishiguro's *Klara and the Sun***

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**Keywords:** bots, perspective, humanoid, human emotions, point of view, science fiction.

This paper looks at the intricacies involved in the description of a futuristic society from the point of view of Klara. According to their perspective, humans have been theorizing about the machines of the future and bots since automated machine discourse hit academia. Whether

2001: *A Space Odyssey* (1968)'s HAL or *Star Wars: From the Adventures of Luke Skywalker* (1976)'s R2D2, all are descriptions of bots from the perspective of humans. Ishiguro challenges the former's stereotypical portrayal and proceeds to describe the human world from the point of view of the non-human entity. Ishiguro's bots receive those finer details as part of their characteristics, which blur the boundaries between the creator and creation. One such example is the semblance of intuition. Klara is an artificial friend (AF) who is bought from a store that sells AFs by Josie, a young teen. The AF readily risks its functionality to save Josie, whom Klara is assigned the task of accompanying. Klara is an AF that 'thinks' or is capable of coherent thought and is capable of display of sympathy and observation. How does she perceive the human world? When the humans around Josie, later revealed as a genetically engineered child, give up on her recovery, Ishiguro employs Klara as a substitute for 'hope', an exclusive to human quality. What makes the human characters of the novel consider Klara as an alternative to Josie if she does not pull through. Finding the droid's prediction to be audacious and kind, is there something that the human character, as well as the readers, are missing out on? She believes that the Sun will bestow Klara with its 'special nourishment' and it may postpone the process but will never deny it. Klara is manhandled by a bunch of teenagers who are apparently "learning to socialize" but the readers, conditioned with the context of a gendered body may find Klara's narration unacceptable.

### **A Critical Study of Art & Science in the select Graphic novels of Alan Moore**

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Art and science in literary work makes an essence for the post-modern era reading with an impact. In this research paper, the study takes place with Alan Moore's writing of Art and Science with selected novels as "*V for Vendetta*", "*Watchman*" and "*Swamp Things*." In seeking to control their constituents, the fascist government ruling Moore and Lloyd's vision of England has eradicated many of the arts from society. The selected novels deal with how the use of Sci-fi changed the phenomena of reading literature with pop art. The extent of this artistic suppression is evidenced in V's Shadow Gallery, where he seeks to preserve much of the art that has been removed from society. Much of the science in *V for Vendetta* is eerily similar to that of the Nazis during World War II, using members of "resettlement camps" as subjects for inhumane experiments and this can be very well presented in the paper with the theory of New Historicism. In comics/graphic novels as resources for postmodern science education by focusing on representations of modern scientific concepts in *Watchmen's* narrative themes and the unique capability of the sequential art medium to represent key concepts in postmodern science. And *Swamp Things* can change the perception of how culture and science can happen drastically to humanity. Through the art and science of writing he creates a kind of genre that can take writing of this with visualization techniques as well. Similarly, we see how the government has also taken control of science and experimentation,

using it to further control their constituents. Here, Alan Moore's select Graphic novel presents this concept in depth.

## **Science Fiction in Dogri Language: A Study of 'A Better Way of Life'**

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Dogri is a language of Dogras of Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir. Dogri is one of the 22 official languages of India and was added in the 8th schedule of the constitution in 2003. Though it is a lesser-known language in India and is treated as an ethnic language of Dogras, it is spoken by more than five million people. Dogri Literature, which started to be written in the Eighteenth Century, had to face neglect and denial in terms of its recording. In the 20th century Dogri Sanstha and similar organizations were formed to bring the rich tradition of Dogri literature back to track and the past 20 years have seen its tremendous growth. Many writers are experimenting with different genres and styles. 'A Better Way of Life,' a short story by Dr. Lalit Mangotra, is one such effort into writing science fiction in Dogri language. The paper will attempt to analyse 'A Better Way of Life' as first of its kind, a science fiction written in Dogri language.

## **Nature of Revenge in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein**

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**Keywords:** Revenge, nature, alienation, dangerous knowledge, ambitions.

Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley was an English novelist who wrote the gothic novel Frankenstein or The Modern Prometheus which is considered an early example of science fiction. Frankenstein tells the story of Victor Frankenstein, a young scientist who creates a sapient creature in an unorthodox scientific experiment. Here the theme of the novel Frankenstein is the monster turns to revenge. The revenge does not just consume the monster however it also consumes victor the victim of the monster's revenge after the monster murder's victor's relative's victor vows a "great and signal revenge on cursed head". The main message that Frankenstein conveys is the danger in the pursuit of knowledge and advancement in science and technology. In the novel we see victor try to push forward the limits of science by creating a creature from old body parts. The creation of the creature backfired on Victor once the monster escaped. Frankenstein shows that human beings are deeply ambitious. Victor and Walton dream of transforming society and of bringing glory to themselves through their scientific achievements. However, their actions are deeply flawed and bring misfortune for all. In Frankenstein crises and suffering result when imperfect men disturb nature's perfection in the end, victor is destroyed for his evil attempt to manipulate the power of nature. The novel Frankenstein portrays the importance of careful scientific study and technological methods, especially when working in a new field of study.



## **A study of Gender Inequality in Joanna Russ's "When it Changed"**

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**Keywords:** Gender, Plague, Equality, Astronauts, Society, Colony, Sex.

Joanna Russ is an American writer, academic and radical feminist, and fiction writer. She is author of a number of works of science fiction, fantasy, and feminist literary criticism. She is best known for the novel *The Female Man* and the short story "When it Changed". This short story features a planet colonized by only women. On this planet, while-away, the women have adapted to their unique situation and go a bundle on sustenance without men. Janet Evanson lives on while-away an all-female human colony planet whose inhabitants produce and give birth by collaborate ova and they take part in same sex marriages. Because all the men died from a plague thirty generations earlier. When male astronauts arrive from the Earth, they say that Earth has become genetically deficient and told her that they would like to reproduce with women. Janet's wife tries to kill the astronauts, Janet stops her, but realizes that their very existence will change while-away society forever. Thus Joanna Russ concludes this story with that self – reliance of this all female society indicates what could change in the current society if men and women responded to the dream of a gender equal world. But the gender question is far too real to not notice. At the end of the short story that is entirely dark, as the woman wonders if a real sense of gender Equality is possible.

## **Gender roles in Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale***

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and

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Gender plays an important role in the building of any fictional work. The role that a gender plays within the society deals with the mannerisms of both male and female in the traditional as well as cultural aspects of any society. Unfortunately, the role of women in many ways keeps deteriorating with time; mostly visible in literature in its varied genres. Science Fiction is a genre that deals with futuristic imagination. Through science fiction, one may glimpse the role of gender in the future. Questions like how women are perceived in the future, do women get the equality they have been asking for after all, etc. can be answered through science fiction novels. *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood is one such novel that depicts the deterioration of women in the future. It shows how the world is reversed in the future instead of having progressed. The civilization has brought women back to the start and that they have no right of their own. The roles of both male and female plays an essential role in the novel which is discussed in this research.

## **Blade Runner Series: A Probe on Ethnicity and Artificial Humanity**

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**Keywords:** Humanity, Ethics, AI, Sci-Fi, Replicants

The innate tendency of human nature is its redressing ability since the emergence of humanity. Irrespective of prevailing belief systems for human existence i.e. biological concept, spiritual belief or the concept of human civilization; human race kept facing the dilemma of ethnological system and developing sects of advanced technology. Here, the paper observes the running question of human values or ethics and artificial humanity in the light of a dystopian novel "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sleep" authored by Philip K. Dick, published in 1968. Later, it was adapted in the form of Sci-fi Movie "Blade Runner" directed by Ridley Scott in 1982 and again after 30 years in 2007. The movie is remarkable because of its futuristic approach towards human generation and the evolution of new technology AI in the form of human-like robots or replicants. The first part of the movie is talking about year 2019 and presented a very advance version of technology which deals with humanity directly; this is the time when human race had control on the nature and right of existence on replicants where they used to retire (dismantle/kill) unwanted version of robots by Blade Runner (type of a law enforcement officer). Second part of the book was adapted in the same movie which was released after 30 years in 2007 which deals with the time 2049. This time replicants are ultra-advance and become near to humans and sometimes more than human. They are no longer followers of human wishes but started to consider them human itself and want to enhance their longevity. There are few replicants who are more advanced than the human race and due to recorded memory consider them actual humans and behave like that. The most crucial event of this series is that replicants became capable of giving birth, which is a direct attack on human existence and artificial humans. The paper also probes on actual humanity in both replicants and humans

The methodology of this paper is to have comparative analyses of the novel and adapted movie, it also takes an opportunity to question artificial humanity in the human race and danger of existence caused by over-dependence on AI.

## **The new trend of science fiction in children's literature: A Study**

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**Keywords:** Invention, journey, Antarctica, Science, Encourage

Children love science and invention; have a curiosity to know more about science and its activity. Scientific fiction increases their curiosity and enhances their gradual interest in science. Science fiction for children has been started in western countries: western writers have started to write about science fiction as per the demand of readers. Hence, India is not far behind; Indian writers also involve their hands in science fiction and its popularity expands day by day as "a future popular form of children's literature". (Srinivasan 90). The popularity of science was realized after the two world wars. This new phenomenon was taking place and gradually the masses witnessed its effort. Science fiction gives a glimpse of scientific invention to the readers. This paper includes famous science fiction published by CBT, *A Passage to Antarctica*; this fiction explores the trip of Neha to Antarctica.

**Women Science Fiction Authors**  
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There's always room for a story that can transport people to another place  
- J.K. Rowling

Science fiction is the genre where writers weave out their concoction into futuristic possibilities related to technological inventions. We, as readers, knowing the fact that these have been created to entertain us, still choose to believe, justifying Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *Willing Suspension of Disbelief*. In British literature, critics believe it started with Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and got popularized with H.G. Wells' *Time Machine* and it is continuing with the same vogue with Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* to J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter*. In Indian literature, starting from Pushpak Viman in *Ramayana* to *Brahmastra* in *Mahabharata*, fictional technological inventions have always been a part of our literature. But this genre got its due credit in the postmodern era where we have writers like Kumudini Mohapatra and Mimi Mondal who have taken the responsibility to promote the genre amongst the youngsters of our nation. In this paper I am going to discuss the contribution of female science fiction writers from the East to the West beginning from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the contemporary period.

**Science Fiction from the Perspectives of the Women Authors**

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Before talking about the role and importance of women authors in science fiction we need to know about science fiction. Science fiction is a type of exploratory fiction of imagination that is beyond this nature or which does not exist in this real world. Science fiction covers a wide range of themes exploring the relevance of science and technology in the future in the reference of time, travel, space etc. It also focuses on the consequences of technology and science further. Feminist science fiction is a subgenre of science fiction, which talks about the feminist theories and themes. It deals with the themes of patriarchy, oppression, sexuality, gender, inequality, race, reproduction etc. but it is not only concerned about the above-mentioned themes rather it focuses on the very political condition also because its purpose is to analyze and critique the dominant culture of patriarchy.

Women authors always believe that this gender is socially constructed, and through their works they always try to come out of this socially constructed identity of this world. Here I would like to mention some works like *The Left Hand of Darkness* by Ursula K. Le Guin, *Dawn* by Octavia E. Butler, *Imago* by Butler and *The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms* by N.K. Jemisin to portray sci fi from the perspective of women authors.

***Escape* by Manjula Padmanabhan: A confederacy of Ecofeminism with Fantasy**

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The research paper shall focus on the distinguished yet unified themes of the science fiction novel '*Escape*' by Manjula Padmanabhan. The goal of the research paper is to discuss the concepts like 'ecofeminism' and 'fantasy' and how these are linked with the themes of the science fiction novel '*Escape*'. In this novel, Padmanabhan presents a scary and daunting ultramodern dystopian society where women, the real creator, are being exterminated. At the same time the novel shows the devastated Nature outside as well as inside the human mind.

Ecofeminism lays emphasis on the ways both Nature and Women are treated in the male dominated society. On the other hand, Fantasy refers to an imaginative and futuristic world with or without some real-world elements. These two major conceptions are very finely put together in the novel 'Escape'. The paper thus a study of the major themes like 'ecofeminism' along with 'fantasy' in the science fiction novel 'Escape' by Manjula Padmanabhan.

### **Science-fiction and Ethics**

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**Keywords:** imaginary elements, pros and cons, ethics, society, morality.

Science-fiction is a hypothetical fiction that accommodates imagined elements that do not really exist in the real world. Science and fiction when unite together construct a scenario which allows us to travel through time, or invade alien spaces, bespeaking imaginary creatures, experiments which would result in either construction or destruction. Books, Series, Movies, Cartoons dealing with science- fiction genre how do these connect ethically with the society and about its past, present, future aspects. Does it bestow the credit for the base of its progress? Science-fiction can be a tool to drive society ethically as it has a vast and all age audience. This paper would deal with Science-fiction and how it justifies the concept of morality in society.

### **Posthumanism view at Enthiran**

**Judah Jangam**, *Research Scholar, Madras Christian College, jangamjudah@gmail.com*

In a world filled with scientific and technological innovations- humanoids and androids are beginning to gain access to fiction. With Sophia (a feminine humanoid robot) becoming a robot citizen of Saudi Arabia, it highlights the technological advancement not only in fiction but also in reality. Post-humanism seeks to erode the traditional walls among the human, the animal and the technological. A post-human can be explained as a figure that has with the aid of technology, genetic advancement or by some mystical mishap, attained abilities which extend beyond maximum capacities of normal human progeny. Movies rich in artificial Intelligence continue to filter through the artistic sensibility of filmmakers. Popular actors and directors are transcending the walls of humanism and entering the new arena of post-human paradigm. Enthiran a 2010 Tamil science fiction film is co-written and directed by S. Shankar. The film features Rajinikanth and Aishwarya Rai in the lead roles. Many say that it is a remake of 1999 Hollywood movie Bicentennial Man Starring Robin Williams and Sam Neill based on the well-known novella of the same name by Isaac Asimov. The Film "Bicentennial Man" follows the evolution of the android robot Andrew from his introduction into a family and interaction with them through four generations. The film is well known for its make-up. But the genre is Drama, Sci – Fi. Enthiran is somewhat the same as Bicentennial Man and with Indian masala mixed together.

## **Anamnesis of the Dimensions: Semantic Memory and Perceptual Cognition about Parallel Multiverse**

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**Keywords:** Prosthetic Consciousness, Semantic Memory, Parietal Lobe, Creole, Hyperreality.

The restricted notion about the ‘space’ of human growth has propelled an era of reflectors to propose and showcase the existence of a fluidity of space. It all started with H.G. Wells' *The Time Machine*, the concept of a ‘traveler’ visiting another ‘dimension’ had not only opened up the neurons of thinking but also destroyed the rigidity of space cognition. From that moment onwards Star Trek, Ben 10, Avengers, Men in Black, Thor, Doctor Strange, and a host of other fictional narratives have provided us with proper justifications about the fluidity of ‘universe’ – providing hope for an alternate existence. Their visual justifications with proper phonetic elements have repetitive mechanisms employed in them. They are not only merely providing the possibility of an alteration but scantily wrapping around the cognitive capability of an average individual. Their employments of extravagant visual imagery with adequate sound signifiers have captivated not only the attention span of adolescents, but also of humanity in general. As is evident in their discourses, they are marred with non-cognitive morphemes. If the human brain is observing a new stimulus and does not have any previous morpheme stored for it – then it will acknowledge it as a new signifier altogether, creating a meaningful signifier. This paper thus proposes to analyse popular science fiction narratives (novel, movies and cartoon series) and how they are employing modified signifiers to create the illusionary cognition about a ‘multiverse’.

## **Examination of the impact and effect of science fiction movies/films on students' interest and learning**

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**Keywords:** Sci-fi Films, Space Exploration, Time Travel, Parallel universe.

The purpose of this research project is to determine if the use of science fiction media in the classroom can impact student learning and interest in science. Students were shown clips from various science fiction films such as Gattaca and Spider-Man throughout each unit. The class then discussed different aspects of the plot, how the movies used science, and how science concepts played a role in the movies. In addition, science students' opinions were sought in order to determine their thoughts on the use of this kind of film in science. Student learning was gauged by the assessments in each unit while student interest in science was assessed through the Science Subject Survey and the Post-Treatment Interview. Sci - Fi films can change students' attitudes positively. In addition, it was also determined that student's will have positive thoughts about using this kind of films In sci-fi.



## **Prison, Panopticon and Forced Parenthood: The Parallel Universe of Sci-fi Movie *Vivarium***

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**Keywords:** Sci-fi, Technology, Panopticon, Surveillance, Prison, Vivarium

There has always been a degree of surveillance in the society we inhabit. The practice of surveillance allowed those in power to safeguard the masses from possible threats. Gradually, these mechanisms were sought to extend strategic control over the population. Monitoring the activities and lives of people became the new normal. With time, there has also been immense development in the measures involved. The technological advancements ensured greater and more accurate tracking than ever before. This constant eyeing of individuals forces them to behave a certain way. The awareness of an outside observer cultivates controlled and self-aware behavior amongst the individuals. In this regard, the present paper will examine the parallel universe in the Sci-fi Movie *Vivarium* (2019) as a site of action, wherein the panopticon governs the existence of the trapped protagonists to foster aliens. The seemingly life-like Yonder is a highly controlled area, devoid of all senses and emotions. Thus, problematising the *plasticity* of the disturbingly perfect suburbia. The paper involves a critical analysis of the movie along with a close reading of relevant primary and secondary sources highlighting the underlying forces of surveillance therein.

## **Greg Egan's Treatment to Scientific Laws in *Schild's Ladder* for the fulfillment of Human Desires**

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Greg Egan is a science fiction writer who crafts his fiction perfectly into the science fiction genre. His fiction deal with scientific laws and rules; in it some are speculative and some are real. Using science for the prosperity of mankind, human beings expect luxury and fulfillment of their desire from science. His dreams came into reality through science. Sometimes, it takes years and years for such inventions and discoveries. For example, a man wanted to fly in the air in the past. He attempted it through several inventions and discoveries. At last, man could prepare a plane, for the fulfillment of his desire. Before such invention, many literary works used speculative techniques for the fulfillment of desire. The writers of such literature attempt to fulfill the desires of the readers through imaginary scientific laws and rules. The present paper attempts to analyze how the author has given treatment to scientific laws and rules used to fulfill the desires of mankind.

**Keywords:** Science, speculative, desire, invention

**Life transitions in older adults: A study on old age trauma and technological solutions based on Malayalam feature films *Android Kunjappan version 2.5* and *Home***

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**Keywords:** trauma, traumatic experience, science, technology, old age

Trauma is regarded generally as a significant disrupting event that profoundly alters one's perception of the external world and the functioning of one's emotions. Through an analysis of trauma's psychological, rhetorical, and cultural significance, trauma studies examine the impact of trauma on literature and society. An artist's narration of trauma shows how trauma disrupts attachments between self and others through challenging fundamental assumptions about moral laws and social relationships which are themselves linked to specific environments. In the current paper, the subject of vulnerability and resilience is discussed among people who have faced trauma in the past and the pursuit of happiness in a hostile environment, which is characterized by the dynamic interaction of positive systems that induce a favourable psychological environment and how this favourable psychological environment is created by science and technology. The chapter explores older adults' ability to change and adapt according to technological innovations happening from time to time and application of the same as an option to deal with trauma through the analysis of Malayalam sci-fi film *Android Kunjappan version 2.5* and family drama *Home*.

**BLACK POWER: A study of black superhero characters in America**

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This paper will cover the representation of black cartoons through the ages. America has been a country that used Black people as slaves. Their laws exploited the black people and showed them as savages in movies and literature. Cartoons in Disney and other comics have changed drastically. It is rightly said by Edmund Burke, "those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it." For example in DC's 'Black Lightning' an all-black superhero family that fights hate-crimes and crime as a whole. 'Black Panther' is a Marvel character that is extremely intelligent and a prince that fights crime. The scenario with no black character in cartoons makes people disconnected in the environment. For years America has been a country where in almost all its sci-fi films an alien invasion takes place the saviour and the wounded has always been America. America has tried to create a scenario of supremacy with its films. Black Cartoons that are Superheroes are showcases of the changing nature of America. In cartoons like 'Popeye' where many times an African American character was shown as a Villain or savage. Even in Disney the cartoons in 1940 had a sublime hint on slavery being a joke to making a film called "Princess and the Frog" a film wherein the lead is a Black woman.

**Science Fiction**

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Science fiction is a form of fiction. that deals principally with the impact of actual or imagined science upon society or individuals. Science fiction (sometimes shortened to sci-fi or SF) is a genre of speculative fiction which typically deals with imaginative and futuristic concepts such as advanced science and technology, space exploration, time travel, parallel universes,

extraterrestrial life, sentient artificial intelligence, cybernetics. The emergence of science fiction became most evident in the West, where the social transformations caused by the industrial revolution first led writers to extrapolate the future impact of technology. The clearest precursor, however, was the 17th-century author Cyrano de Bergerac, who wrote about a voyager's trip to and expulsion from the Moon.

#### Main point of science fiction

A good science fiction work posits one vision for the future, among countless possibilities, that is built on a foundation of realism. In creating a link between the present and the future, science fiction invites us to consider the complex ways our choices and interactions contribute to generating the future.

#### Main purpose of science fiction

Science fiction – a genre of fiction dealing with the impact of imagined innovations in science or technology, often in a futuristic setting. Exploring the consequences of such innovations is the traditional purpose of science fiction, making it a “literature of ideas”.

### **Impact of Science in Society in H G Wells' *The Invisible Man***

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H. G. Wells (1866-1946) was a renowned English novelist and short story writer. He is known as the father of science fiction. *The Invisible Man* is a science fiction with a deep communication that has versatile issues. The communication is loud and clear that the scientific discovery should be done in the social and ethical limitations because the failure in doing so may bring adverse results. Science has immense compass but occasionally the products or the trials, if not made well, may bring disaster like Atom Bomb and nuclear munitions. In this novel too it has brought disaster as the scientist becomes invisible. Society weeps for the person who harms it. Griffin is also taken as such a person and therefore society ultimately made him pay his due. It's the society itself that made him a horror because he wasn't correctly understood by the society. Every pen wants to sermonize the society by his/ her workshop, and so H. G Wells isn't an exception.

### **Search for Self in the Religious Dimensions of Arthur C. Clarke's Science Fiction Novel *Rendezvous with Rama***

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**Keywords:** Science, Religion, Science Fiction, Hindu Mythology.

Science and religion are the parts of culture which chant the new mantra to uplift human spirit on the note of self-realization. In the present world Arthur C. Clarke's literary works sermonize a fresh psalm in which fact and faith conjoin on the fictional anecdote. Clarke has employed religion, as a narrative to highlight the role and relevance of science and technology and to demonstrate this notion, science and religion come together in the pursuit of individual growth to transcend and know the real self. Religion is one of the main constituents of the culture, hence Clarke used the major religion and faith of the Oriental culture, that is Hinduism as an essential driving force of action in the novel *Rendezvous with Rama* (1973). The scientific outlook through the glass of Hindu mythology determines the course of action towards search for self in this novel.

## **Science in Robinson's Science Fiction: A Study of Mars Trilogy**

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Kim Stanley Robinson is an American science fiction author famously known for his works like Mars Trilogy, 2312 etc. Science in Robinson's science fiction is the envision of available science and technology. Robinson's is well acquainted with the scientific terms like - Raschi and Ostwald process, fly-by-wire system in spaceship, use of nitrogen to synthesize ammonia fertilizers on Mars in order to grow green lives strengthen the use of advanced form of science for uplifting the society and human culture in outer space, this envision of spreading human civilization on another planet can be achieved through the process of "terraforming". Robinson's science fiction like the Mars Trilogy resembles near reality envisioning future probabilities solely if we manage such an upgrade in science and technology. The progression towards techno centric society is the projection of how technology will impact human civilization.

### **Objectives**

1. To show the use of terraforming as advanced means of science in Robinson's Mars Trilogy
2. To show the impact of human interaction with science and technology
3. To show the shaping of society and formation of future colonies through science.

## **Technology, the latent conqueror: An experiential study on the perception and awareness of technological determinism featuring select films featuring science-fiction and AI literature, among engineering undergraduates at VIT, Vellore**

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**Keywords:** society, technological determinism, autonomy, artificial intelligence, colonialism

In today's age, we see the increasing influence of technology on people which begs to raise the question: Is society determined by technology? Rising up within the constraints of each society, technology had its limitations, as it catered to the needs and interests of the masses. As society evolved, so did its requirements. We are at a stage where dependence on technology have gone through the roof with new innovations coming up in the sector, the rise of artificial intelligence for instance. Technology has replaced the concept of being a mere tool and is creating/demanding a space of its own. With advancements in various fields like robotics which churn out machines that can mimic human behaviour and is equipped with anthropomorphic features, it has become rather difficult to view them as mere commodities waiting for one's (human master's) command. Keeping this in view, the paper primarily focuses on the relation between society and technology, with special emphasis on artificial intelligence, through an analysis of the films Ra One (Bollywood), Android Kunjappan (Mollywood) and Ironman 3

(Hollywood). Secondly, an experiential study was carried out to know the perception of the Engineering students, the future technologists, who are the stakeholders of the 21st century technological world, with an aim to know their perception of technology and bring an awareness of the limitations of technology and its role in the creation of utopian and dystopian world. Finally, the paper examines the consequence of technological determinism and autonomy from a colonial perspective and intends to bring a preparedness among the students to perceive technology conscious of its limitation and bring a harmony between the society and technology that leads toward building a utopian world.

Keywords: society, technological determinism, autonomy, artificial intelligence, colonialism

### **The Genesis of Proto-Science Fiction: A Study of Margaret Cavendish's *The Blazing World***

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Keywords: Science Fiction, Blazing World, Philosophical Reflections, ProtoScience Feminism, Power and Science.

*The Blazing World* as a literary work, defies all the literary traditions of the seventeenth century. Cavendish created this Utopian fiction and moved beyond the boundaries of reason and compartmentalised standards. Through *The Blazing World*, she shows that women can be as creative and capable as male writers and calls for abandoning the masculine restrictions. As Utopian and science fiction, the novel can be seen as a feminist festo. It is written for the female readers and has women as central characters, the Empress and the Duchess, discussing topics like science, governance and philosophy in a fantastical setting.

The Description of the New World, called *The Blazing World*, is often considered a forerunner to the genres of both science fiction and utopian novels. It is satirical in tone and can also be seen as a treatise on nature philosophy. The work is divided into two parts and delineated different genres like 'romantical', 'philosophical', and 'fancy' or 'fantastical'. Science fiction was used by Margaret Cavendish to highlight the negative-both present and potential aspects of her time. *The Blazing World* binds to Cavendish's philosophical reflections, highlighting how her criticism of the mechanistic approach and the experimental scientific method has important political and epistemological consequences, even for the contemporary feminist debate on science and knowledge.

### **Understanding and Exploring the Science Fantasy in Children's Literature**

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**Keywords:** Science Fiction, Science Fantasy, Children Literature, Technology, Realm of Wonder

Science Fantasy, a sub-genre of speculative fiction, which include both science fiction and fantasy elements. The relation of Science Fantasy in children's literature has a huge impact on a child's mind. Giving exposure to more advanced technology with fantastical elements gives a wider perspective to the child's mind. Children get more excited and curious when it's about



human power or magic elements, so it becomes important that at such an age children explore the realm of wonder and imagination. And create or develop a genuine interest for science. The current paper will understand and explore the relation and role of science fantasy in children's literature. Reading Science Fantasy can help readers make sense of the world. This kind of genre does not escape one's mind in an imaginary world only but also keeps one surrounded by logic and science. Rather than limiting the reader's capacity to deal with reality, exposure to such science fantasy novels may expand their ability to engage with reality based on science. It's a wonderful way of introducing the science fiction genres to children that will help in holistic development, making them more analytical, imaginative and hopeful about the future.

## Topics other than Science Fiction

### **Study of impact of Polycystic Ovarian Disease (PCOD) on women's health and the role of YOGA**

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**Keywords:** PCOD, YOGA, Hyperandrogenism, anovulation, hirsutism

PCOD or Polycystic Ovarian Disease is a very common health condition nowadays, seen in reproductive age females. It's a multifactorial condition in which females have chronic anovulation and hyperandrogenism (presence of excessive male hormone in a female). Its incidence is increasing and thus the prevalence of PCOD in India at present is approximately 8- 22%. Owing to the stresses of life, sedentary lifestyle, junk food, PCOD has become fairly common in India especially in urban populations. Though it includes a wide variety of symptoms, the most common ones are obesity, menstrual irregularities like heavy periods, periods at irregular intervals, hirsutism (excessive hair growth in body of a female), acne, and even insulin resistance, diabetes mellitus and infertility are also seen in such females. Although thin females can also develop PCOD but there is a strong relation between obesity, stress and PCOD as it disturbs what is called as HPO axis which leads to insulin resistance and further leads to hyperandrogenism. These females can also develop hypertension, endometrial cancer, osteoporosis later in their life. No doubt there are a lot of medicines and treatments available for PCOD but there are certain habits and lifestyle changes which can be included in the life of a female with PCOD for curing these disturbing symptoms like obesity, unnecessary stress and anxiety, menstrual problems and all this can be achieved with YOGA. Yoga works not only on physical health but mental health too via *asanas* with breathing control and pranayama. Regular practice of yoga helps by maintaining health of pelvic organs, endocrine functioning and mental stability.

### **Subalternity and the Political Aesthetics of Adivasi Resistance in India**

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**Keywords:** Adivasi, Postcolonial, Rebel, Duplicitous, Pundits, Tribal, State, Margins

The proposed paper shows two different ways by which adivasi subjects respond to two faces of the postcolonial Indian state. They can play helpless victims for the state and civil society in

order to make claims on them vis-a-vis the contemporary domains of customs and law. Yet they can also fit the savage slot by invoking the bloodthirsty image of the tribal rebel. Academic scholarships and media coverage routinely replicate, circulate and legitimize these images, reifying as the “truth” about tribes as quintessential subaltern actors. Scraping beneath the surface, however, we may appreciate how the two faced tribal subject discovered by our pundits may be a mirror image of the duplicitous state in the margins of postcolonial India. The state pledges to protect tribal land rights and empower tribal democracy, yet it also steals the minerals and forests around their dwellings and auctions off their lands to the highest bidder. Thereafter, the tribal subject is constituted as ‘poor’, and hence a worthy object for the multi-million dollar poverty industry. Cunningly, the state is described as “absent” in tribal areas, but in fact it may be omnipresent. It suffuses the processes of self making and community-making for tribal subjects, causing them to mirror the two facedness of the state.

The paper under study would also analyse the typical language used by the adivasis which constitute their aesthetics.

### **Cultural Dominance through Technology and Consumerization: An analysis of Effects of Technology on Popular Culture**

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**Key words:** Consumerization, popular culture, myths and religion

The standard story of modernity starts with the industrial revolution, which meant the change of the means of production, the change of the individual’s lifestyle and the way in which he perceived the world. The time allocated to labor dropped, the quantity of physical work spent was drastically reduced, products became cheaper and more accessible to a wider mass of people and the learning institutions also became more open and accessible. The cultural forms which proceeded this period of social change were based on tradition; they were born out of myths and religion and had a regional character. The new paradigm changed radically the means of production, diffusion and perception of information and of cultural objects. This tendency would later receive the name of mass communication. The concept of McDonaldization, stemming from the name of the well-known chain of fast-food restaurants. The concept is defined as the process through which the principles of the fast-food restaurant are starting to dominate more and more sectors in the American society, as well as in the rest of the world. The influence of the McDonaldization process is felt also throughout culture. Because of standardization “the products of a certain culture are much more easily diffused than those of another” (Ritzer, 2004, p. 29) at the same time, it may become more and more difficult to distinguish what is local and what is global. This paper particularly lays emphasis on the effect of science and technology and how it takes part in popular culture.

### **Socio-Realistic Approach in the Novels of Kamala Markandaya**

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**Keywords:** Spiritual, Hunger, Poverty, Realism, Artistic, Rural life.

Kamala Markandaya is a prominent name in Indian English Fiction. There is a sense of social Realism in her fiction and most of it is related to political, cultural, social, spiritual, economic and artistic contents. She always gives a particular focus on social realism in her novels. Poverty, hunger and starvation have always been some main themes of her novels. She lives in a south India village to have first hand knowledge about rural life. She keenly observes her life

in villages. She tried to draw a lively picture of modern Indian society. Her novels portray social evil and deal with the reality of society. Kamala Markandaya has depicted social problems which are closely related to human life. She has presented valuable social reality in her novels. Her cultural conciseness is evident everywhere. The study proposes the theme of socio realistic approach in the novel of Kamala Markandaya.

### **Socio-cultural Consciousness in Chetan Bhagat's Female Protagonists**

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**Keywords:** Feminism, Individuality, Pre-Marital Sex, Social Setting and, Urban life style

A society is dependent on the goodness and badness of its culture. The better the culture and the better society, the more a nation's progress is rooted. Without a good woman, a nation's socio-cultural richness cannot be imagined. It shows up in a lot of different kinds of writing, from science fiction to poetry to drama. In our ancient literature, the role of a woman has been a cultural consciousness. In contemporary fiction, it is also that way. Female protagonists in Chetan Bagat's novels are true representatives of contemporary culture and modernity. They are technologically savvy and will bend their attitude to accommodate their desires. They are English-speaking and hi-fi young urban Indians. They enjoy premarital sex, but none of them feels ashamed of having done it. He gives voice to their unheard feelings and emotions. The purpose of this paper is to concentrate on the major themes of equality, feminism, and the changing thought processes of female protagonists who are competitive and ambitious in the selected novels of Chetan Bhagat. This paper will also discuss the concept of modernity, society, and culture.

### **Affective Encounters and Reflexive Responses: Disability and the Gaze in the Short Story *Good Country People* by Flannery O' Connor**

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‘Try not to associate bodily defect with mental, my good friend, except for a solid reason’, says Charles Dickens. As this saying defect in the human body cannot be viewed as a defect in an individual’s intellect. When a person fails in any of his efforts, the world looks at him as he/she is crippled. And the gaze the world imposes on an individual is not endurable than the failure of the person. Disability encounters are affective encounters and those encounters produce discrete, inspiration and acceptance. Margaret Wetherell terms ‘affective practice’ a “figuration where the body possibilities and routines become recruited or entangled together with meaning-making and with other social and material figurations”. When a differently-abled person is met by a so-called normal being there are two ways of making the gaze. One being the hatred and disgust, and the other being the gaze to look at them with pity, and concern which happens to be two extreme contradictory points of the same coin. This paper aims to show how a woman protagonist with her wooden leg is trashed and dejected in the way the world looks at her in the short story, *Good Country People* by Flannery O'Connor.

## Desensationalizing Rape in Rajendran's *The Lesson* (2015)

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**Keywords:** sexual violence, intersectionality, dystopia, desensationalisation

Addressing a problem demands an initial identification. The age of intersectional feminism redefined the identity politics concerning both the problem and the victim. The feminist dystopian fiction in English in India ceaselessly showcases the horrors of gender-based sexual violence as everyday newspapers hardly fall short of such reportage. *The Lesson* (2015) by Sowmya Rajendran uses an apparently simple but unnerving trope to introduce 'rape' as a legally-established, state-sponsored mode to discipline the recalcitrant body when the rest of the repressive measures don't bear a state-desired outcome. The idea of chastity and bodily sanctity turn the victimization of the Indian woman more nuanced and place it beyond the Western discourse of the violent act and the responses. Sexual abuse in India remains mostly inconspicuous behind the shrouds of psychological and emotional trauma. The politics of media representation with sincere efforts to hide the identity of the victim adds to it counterproductively. The resistance movement has already started with support groups; help lines and so on within the occidental space but the orient desperately needs a thorough revision of the narrative. This research paper aims at identifying the epistemological shift witnessed through the desensationalization of rape.

## TEACHING ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

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**Keywords:** Teaching English, culture

To enable students to communicate in proper English both orally and in writing, whether in elementary, junior high, or senior high schools, is the overarching goal of English instruction in schools. English learners should be equipped with knowledge about English culture in addition to the language components, such as grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation, in order to help the students reach the target. However, in practice, the cultural sides of English are not taken seriously. A cursory examination of textbooks reveals that the cultural nuances of the language are not given serious consideration by textbook authors. The fact that some English professors frequently instruct their students using the content found in textbooks as it makes this problem worse. First of all, teachers may believe that the information presented in the textbooks is both linguistically and culturally appropriate. Second, they may believe that culture is a distinct subject that belongs in the domain of other teachers. This viewpoint runs counter to the idea that language and culture are inextricably linked, making it impossible to teach one without also teaching the other. This paper discusses the close connection between language and culture and how English language instructors can incorporate English culture while teaching the language.

## **Exploring Spiritual Ecofeminism and Magical Realism in Vandana Singh's "The Woman Who Thought She Was a Planet"**

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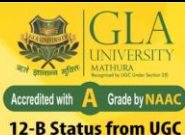
**Keywords:** Speculative Fiction, Ecofeminism, Western Philosophy of Dualism, Magical Realism, Patriarchy, Nature/Culture.

The paper aims to analyse Vandana Singh's short story "The Woman Who Thought She Was a Planet" from an ecofeminist perspective, focusing particularly on her approach to the Western philosophy of dualism. For ecofeminists, the oppressive systems of domination are reinforced through dualistic constructs like male/female, culture/nature, and human/nature. In Vandana Singh's short story, elements of magical realism and spiritual ecofeminism are interwoven with gender and body politics, highlighting how women and nature have been subjected to oppression and subordination in the patriarchal society. She portrays through her work that each community has a unique relationship with the environment around them and therefore they take on a different meaning in different cultural contexts. Through the story it becomes apparent that the act of the female protagonist looking for protection by nature as the last resort of hope reinforced the fact that the association between women and nature is bonded definitely.

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