

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual/7<sup>th</sup> International Science Fiction Virtual Conference- April 8 & 9, 2023

# PROCEEDINGS



Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies®

# A 107, DS MAX Signature, Devinagar, Near Aadhar Data Center,  
Bangalore, Karnataka, India

**22<sup>nd</sup> Annual / 7<sup>th</sup> International  
Science Fiction Virtual Conference – April 8 & 9, 2023**

# **PROCEEDINGS**

**Chief Editor:** Dr. Purushothaman K S

**Assistant Editors:**

1. Ms. Hemalatha S. Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of English, Sri Sarada College for Women (Autonomous), Salem, Tamil Nadu.
2. Ms. Ardra P Kumar Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of English, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore, Tamil Nadu.
3. Ms. Kurinji G. M.A, Sri Sarada College for Women Salem.

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## FOREWORD



### **Dr. SRINARAHARI M H**

Secretary – General, IASFS

I feel immensely happy to write a foreword for the Proceedings of the 22nd Annual/ 7th International Science Fiction Virtual Conference of April 2023. Hope it appears as a milestone of the progress of IASFS since its establishment on January 2, 1998. 22/7 mathematically represents the Greek letter ‘ $\pi$ ’ which is equal to 3.14285714286. That means we have to still extend the radius/diameter to reach the full form because the Area of a Circle is calculated with the formula  $A=\pi r^2$ . It hints that  $\pi$  is constant and does not alter its value. But the radius is a variable factor. In order to expand, our services, so far, many Universities, Institutions, and organizations had collaborated in organizing the past conferences. So, we are still in the beginning. It infers our future ventures are to seek collaboration with maximum number of people, organizations, to enhance life members, to form dedicated teams to work on various fronts, efforts to be made for academicians and authors to join hands and others.

We have proposed to have three sections in this Proceedings namely, messages from eminent persons; abstracts of the paper presenters and a few panellists; and ‘Who is Who’ section provides information for one another to connect with the participants, chairpersons, panellists, moderators, members of the organizing committee to have everlasting bondage.

I have to thank the editorial team for their efforts in bringing out this online book form.

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## CHIEF EDITOR'S NOTE



### **Dr K S PURUSHOTHAMAN**

Founder-President of IASFS

IASFS is into its 25<sup>th</sup> year. In these years IASFS has made significant progress towards its goal of popularising Science Fiction reading, writing and studying in India. Past and present conferences have made this achievement possible. The 22<sup>nd</sup> conference is actually a milestone in our SF movement. Earlier we had organised SF conferences in collaboration with various institutions and agencies, which had contributed in providing funds and facilities.

But this conference is unique. It has been organised by IASFS itself purely on an online basis with no collaboration or sponsorship. A dedicated team of technical staff, student conveners, anchors and directed by Dr M. H. Srinarahari and myself – all at various remote locations. Srinarahari and the technical team at Bangalore, Convenor and anchors at Salem, myself at Vellore and, of course, the panellists and participants and audience at their respective locations in India and abroad. And all went well. The proceedings presented hereunder are a testimony to the fulfilling experience of this conference.

I am sure the proceedings will be a rewarding experience for all and will provide a fresh perspective on various aspects of science fiction, specifically, on research prospects and inspiring on the writing of SF. The papers presented help us to understand the nuances of academic writing and how such exercises encourage research in this highly potential area of study, an area that enables inter-/multi-disciplinary studies.

I take this opportunity to thank all eminent panellists, authors, research scholars, academics, students, technical staff and others who participated in this conference. My particular thanks to Ms Hemalatha S. and Ms Kurinji G. of Sri Sarada College for Women (Autonomous), Salem, who did much to make this proceeding for what it is.

I am also indebted to Dr J Panneer Selvam, SF scholar extraordinary and Mr Suneel V Sule, SF author and enthusiast, for their messages.

Last but not the least is Dr M H Srinarahari, Secretary-General, IASFS, the prime mover of all the good that has happened to IASFS and to Indian SF. I have no words to extol his role in the SF movement of the present scenario. I can only say, rather lamely, THANK YOU, my friend.

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## MESSAGES



### **Dr. J PANNER SELVAM**

Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

The IASFS under the helmsman ship of old and young has attained the goal and reach set for itself in the beginning, namely, pan India and multi-lingual. I see that it has even crossed the seas, thanks to the resolve of our founder President and his able lieutenant, the Secretary General.

However, these need not be our final frontier. There may yet be more frontiers to conquer. One is the universities should come forward, not just to incorporate SF into curriculum fringe ways, but must be made to go for a complete paper on SF. We have more than enough to carve out a paper in SF & F.

Second, just as the government wants, we must take to films to spread science and scientific temper. Contextually, this time an Asian SF film has won the film world's prestigious Oscar award. I am spreading this word among the film personalities in my region, Chennai. The film world here has its own reservations. It's my firm belief that we can tip the scale by embarking on filming our SF stories ourselves through crowd funding and these days' platforms like Netflix are ready to buy such content. I'm imagining some of our own members can become actors and that would be a discovery.

Finally, when I say this, some among the film people have listened to the short stories I have written and presented at our conferences. With devoted members in our midst, the conference cannot but be a success.

Thanks for the opportunity.



**Capt. SUNEEL V. SULE**

Principal

Anglo Eastern Maritime Academy,  
Karjat, Raigad, Maharashtra 410201

Science fiction writers carry an important responsibility on their shoulders. It is not a ticket to dishing out wild fantasies under the guise of sci fi. While writing, a good sci-fi writer is bound to honour all that science stands for: logic reason, visualization; and shall not succumb to the temptation of promoting pseudo-science. We must remember that our predecessors have seen dreams which scientists later brought to reality. Good sci-fi has the potential to see dreams based on existing science, which will become reality in future and make the world a better place for everyone. My best wishes to the IASFS Conference and to all my fellow sci fi writers.





**Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies ®, Bangalore, Karnataka, India**

**22nd Annual/7th International Science Fiction Online Conference of April 2023.**

**Dates: 08.04.2023 & 09.04.2023**

**Program Schedule of the Conference**

<b>08.04.2023 Saturday</b>	<b>Program Details</b>	<b>09: 15 am</b>
<b>INAUGURAL FUNCTION</b>		
Login to view: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVm0Of9foo8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVm0Of9foo8</a>		
Nadaswaram by <b>Tirumala Troup</b> , Bangalore, Karnataka, India		
<b>INVOCATION</b>		
<b>Vidhushi Manali Kulkarni:</b> Popular Musician, Aurangabad, Maharashtra State.		
<b>WELCOME SPEECH</b>		
<b>Ms. Hemalatha S :</b> Conference Convener		
<b>ABOUT THE CONFERENCE</b>		
<b>Dr. Srinarahari M H :</b> Secretary- General, IASFS		
<b>GROUP PHOTO</b>		
The viewers/participants/distinguished guests/moderators/panellists/members of the organizing committee/observers are requested to unmute videos for 05.00 minutes to enable the organizers to take a screen shot.		
<b>LIGHTING THE LAMP BY STUDENTS</b>		
<b>Abdul Rahman, Avinash GL, Deepika V, Ranjitha Rohan, Shafaisal Khan</b>		
(UG Bachelor in Visual Arts: Animation & Game Art; Graphic & Communication Design; Animaster College, Bangalore)		

### **INAUGURAL SPEECH**

**Dr. Tarlochan Singh Anand**

Former Professor in English and Principal, Gujranwala Guru Nanak Khalsa College, Ludhiana, Punjab State, India.

Founder and Editor: Literary Voice (A Peer Reviewed Journal of English Studies).

Presently residing in Canada.

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

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Release of the Proceedings of the conference

&

\*Release of the English Translation of Oriya SF Book  
*Death of the Moon* by Late Dr. Gokulanand Mahapatra

**Dr. KS Purushothaman**

Principal (Rtd), Government Arts College, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu

Founder-President, IASFS, Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India

### **VOTE OF THANKS**

**Dayanand H Gangadhar**

Technical Head, IASFS

## SESSION 1

### PANEL DISCUSSION I

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07biSHJAK-Y>

### TOPIC: *ISSUES RELATED TO SF RESEARCH*

**Moderator:** Dr C P Ravichandra

Professor, HoD & Chair (Rtd), PG Department of English, University of Mysore, Karnataka State, India. Presently at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Welcome Speech:** Ms. S. Anugraha M.A., Salem, TN

### Opening Remarks by the Moderator

### PANELISTS:

1. Dr Anbarasi, Principal, Government College, Salem District, TN, India.
2. Dr Amitabha Bhattacharji, Sikkim University, Sikkim State, India
3. Dr Shreya Bhattacharji, Centre for English Language, Central University of Jharkhand, Jharkhand State, India.
4. Dr Kasturi Sinha Ray, PG Department of English, GLA University, Mathura, Uttara Pradesh, India
5. Dr Nataraju G, Department of English, Karnataka State Open University, Mysore, Karnataka, India.
6. Dr Purushothaman KS, Principal (Rtd), Government Arts College, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu, India
7. Dr Ratnakar Bhelkar, Professor & Head (Rtd), Department of English, Dhanwate National College, Nagpur, Maharashtra State, India.
8. Dr Rukmini Krishna, Associate Professor, Department of English, VIT University, Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India.

### Concluding Remarks by the Moderator

**Vote of thanks:** Ms S. Sona M.A., Salem, TN

**08.04.2023 Saturday**

**SESSION 2**

Afternoon session – Duration about 180 hours - Login time: 15.00 hours

**Paper Presentations/Self-Authored SF Story Reading Sessions**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V32L532ThHo>

**Paper presentations I**

Chairperson: **Dr. Sudhir Matapathy**

Sl No	Name of the presenters	Title of the paper
1	Divya Shikhar	'Identity-Crises' in Clones: A Distinct Possibility or a Far-Fetched Idea in Kazuo Ishiguro's <i>Never Let Me Go</i>
2	Manasa G.	Peregrinations into the realms of the Feminist Cyberpunk.
3	Maryam Binth Salim	Feminist Representations and the Creation of a New Fictional Role Model in the Selected Texts of Rhona MacLeod Series
4	Dr. Meenal R.Kale	Narlikar's <i>Virus</i> : An Extrapolation of Aphonic Violence by Cyberpunk
Chairperson's remarks by <b>Dr. Sudhir Matapathy</b>		

**Paper presentations II**

Chairperson: **Dr. Ahilya Barure**

1	Amandeep Singh	Post humanist Reading of Kazuo Ishiguro's <i>Klara and the Sun</i>
2	Karunagaran B	The Implementation of LMS is Essential for Enhancing ESL Learners' Communicative Competence
3	Wendy Van Camp	Every Word Matters
Chairperson's remarks by <b>Dr. Ahilya Barure</b>		

### **Paper presentations III**

Chairperson: **Dr. Amandeep Singh**

1	Lavanya S	The Non-human in Octavia Butler's <i>Dawn</i>
2	Shivam Sharma	Understanding the idea of Trans-human and Brain Computer Interface on Silver-screen: An analysis of the Science fiction film Attack: Part-I
Chairperson's remarks by <b>Dr. Amandeep Singh</b>		

### **Paper presentations IV**

Chairperson **Dr. Saadulla Khan**

1	Reema Kumari	Eco centric Approach in English Literature
Chairperson's remarks by <b>Dr. Saadulla Khan</b>		

### **Paper presentations V**

Chairperson: **Dr. Santhosh G K**

1	Dr. Jaishree	Amitav Ghosh's <i>The Calcutta Chromosome</i> : A Postcolonial Science Fiction
Chairperson's remarks by <b>Dr. Santhosh G K</b>		

### **Self-Authored SF Story Reading Session**

Chairperson **Dr. Vasudeva**

1	Dr. Madhu Chittarvu, Hyderabad, Telangana
2	Harish Goyal, Ajmer, Rajasthan
3	Dr. Sonali Santhosh Kadam
Chairperson’s remarks by <b>Dr. Vasudeva</b>	
Vote of Thanks: <b>Ms. S. Sona M.A.</b> , Salem, Tamil Nadu.	

**09.04.2023 Sunday**

**Day 2**

**09:15 am**

**PANEL DISCUSSION II**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RVt31f6dWs>

**TOPIC: MY EXPERIMENTS WITH SCIENCE FICTION WRITINGS.**

Moderator: **Dr. Ranjan Garge**

Principal (Rtd), Corporate Special Trainer & Event Management Expert,  
Aurangabad, Maharashtra State, India.

Welcome Speech: **Ms. S Sona M.A.**, Salem, TN

**Opening Remarks by the Moderator**

**PANELISTS:**

1. Aadram Nayak, Tehsildar, Sadulshahar, Ganganagar, Rajasthan State, India.
2. Ashish Mahabal Dr, Astronomer, Caltech, Pasadena, CA State, USA.
3. Ayesha Era Natarasan, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu State, India.
4. Barnali Chetia, Dr, HoD, Dept of Sciences & Humanities, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Vadodara, Gujarat
5. Lucie Lukacovicova, Philosophical Faculty, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic.
6. Madhu Chittarvu Dr, Diabetologist & Cardiologist, HoD Medicine, Hyderabad, Telangana State, India.
7. Nilesh Malvankar, Ellicott City, Maryland, USA
8. Ravi Kopparapu Dr, Planetary Scientist, NASA, Louisiana, USA
9. Sadhna Shanker IRS, Principal Director General, Income Tax, New Delhi, India.
10. Savitha Srinivas IPS, Bangalore City Police, Bangalore, Karnataka State.
11. Seema Kulkarni, Coordinator, CWO Refugee Learning Center, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
12. Shweta Taneja, California State, USA.
13. Smitha Potnis, Kandivali (East), Mumbai, Maharashtra State.
14. Zeashan Zaidi Dr, Era's Medical College, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India

**Concluding Remarks by the Moderator**

Vote of Thanks: **Ms. S. Anugraha M.A.**, Salem, TN

**Conference Closes.**

For updates please Visit: <https://iasfs.in>

## ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS PRESENTED

### Post humanist Reading of Kazuo Ishiguro's *Klara and the Sun*

**Dr Aman Deep Singh**

Assistant Professor (English)

Department of Humanities & Social Sciences

Nirma University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Aman\_deep.singh@nirmauni.ac.in, [amandelhisingsh@gmail.com](mailto:amandelhisingsh@gmail.com)

Science Fiction (SF) plays a pivotal role for shaping the attitude of the readers towards the future, and teaches us what it really means to be a humane in a changing world of citizenship cum globalization. Kazuo Ishiguro SF, *Klara and the Sun* (2021), abets one make sense of the world in COVID-19 pandemic, thereby, giving us the opportunity to learn about our own consciousness. It is through the perspective of Klara, the robot protagonist, that we explore artificial intelligence and consciousness, the post human situation of mankind, future of Utopia, humanity's own changing ideologies, and human-machine relationship or human-nonhuman relationship. The way AI enacts human is debatable question as AI introspection not only reflects new capacities for human potential, but it mirrors the limits of humanity i.e., creature is defined and associated its creator. Ishiguro has presented AI as conscious machine, rather than a manufactured risk, to be seen as a depiction of societal issues and its interrelation to science and technology.

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### Amitav Ghosh's *the Calcutta Chromosome*: A Postcolonial Science Fiction

**Dr Jai Shree**

Assistant Professor

Department of English

Govt. Degree College Chamba (H.P.)

[jaishree1.dhar@gmail.com](mailto:jaishree1.dhar@gmail.com)

The novels of Amitav Ghosh are characterised by thorough research notably anthropological, historical and form on the criss-crossing nature of various culture. Like Ghosh's other novels, *The Calcutta Chromosome* is merging different genres science, history, magic realism, thriller detective and ghost story. This novel also stresses more on science; it is indeed a science fiction. This densely layered novel offers an alternate history of the discovery of the parasite that causes malaria. The story begins when Antar a computer programmer in New York comes across a damaged ID Card on his computer Ava. Amitav Ghosh, a novelist with an extraordinary sense of history and place is indisputably one of the most important novelists of our time. This paper is an attempt to show Ghosh's predominant concern with the exploration of personal memories in the wake of historical developments. How differences merge together giving rise to hybrid society peopled by characters with diverse backgrounds. Keywords: Science fiction, chromosome, magic realism, Amitav Ghosh etc.

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**‘Identity-Crises’ in Clones: A Distinct Possibility or a Far-Fetched Idea in Kazuo  
Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go***

**Divya Shikhar**

Research Scholar

Department of English

Institute of Applied Sciences and Humanities,

GLA University, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh

This paper aims to analyse the possibility of identity crises in clones as portrayed by Kazuo Ishiguro, the Noble laureate of 2017, in his sci-fi work called *Never Let Me Go* (2005). The novel is set around clones who have been ‘hatched’ for a donation of vital organs and are called ‘carers’ when they offer care and support to other ‘donor’ clones. The novel begins with Kathy narrating the events occurring around her and her friends, Ruth and Tom at Hail sham (their residential school). This study will aim to look into the ways in which the characters in *Never Let Me Go* struggle with defining their own identities in a society that has predetermined their fate. The paper will also navigate through Ishiguro’s use of the concept of clones in *Never Let Me Go* to comment on societal attitudes towards identity and individuality. Memory plays a vital role in the process of identity formation in this work. This paper studies the role of memory in narration and the portrayal of self-identity. Looking into how the work explores identity issues on broader societal concerns, such as the commodification of human life and the dehumanization of marginalized groups. This paper will shed light on how the novel's alternative universe allows for a critical commentary on contemporary societal attitudes towards identity and mortality and will discuss the ways in which Ishiguro's depiction of identity in "*Never Let Me Go*" intersect with contemporary theories of identity formation, such as the social constructionist perspective.

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# **The Implementation of LMS is Essential for Enhancing ESL Learners' Communicative Competence**

**Karunakaran B**

PhD Research Scholar

PG & Research Department of English

Thanthai Periyar Government Arts & Science College

Tiruchirappalli- 620023, Tamil Nadu, India.

[karunab120497@gmail.com](mailto:karunab120497@gmail.com)

In the context of English as Second Language (ESL) learning, the importance of communicative competence cannot be overstated. Effective communication in English is crucial for students to succeed in academic, professional, and social contexts. However, enhancing communicative competence can be a daunting task for ESL learners, especially those who are not exposed to an English-speaking environment. Blended learning, which combines traditional classroom instruction with online learning, has become increasingly popular in the teaching of English as a Second Language (ESL). One of the key components of blended learning is the use of Learning Management Systems (LMS), which can provide a wide range of language learning tools and promote interaction and collaboration among learners. In recent years, the implementation of Learning Management Systems (LMS) has gained popularity in language teaching and learning. LMS can provide an effective platform to enhance students' communicative competence by providing various language learning tools and facilitating interaction and collaboration among learners. This paper explores the necessity of implementing LMS to enhance the students' communicative competence for ESL learners. It discusses the benefits of LMS, such as personalized learning, interactive learning, and real-time feedback, which can lead to improved language proficiency, confidence, and motivation. Additionally, the paper highlights the challenges that need to be addressed when implementing LMS, such as technical issues, teacher training, and the need for a well-structured curriculum. Overall, the paper emphasizes that implementing LMS can play a significant role in enhancing ESL learners' communicative competence. It also calls for further research to investigate the effectiveness of LMS in different contexts and to identify the best practices for integrating LMS into language teaching and learning.

## **The Non-human in Octavia Butler's *Dawn***

**Mrs. S. Lavanya**

Assistant Professor of English

Sri Sarada College for Women (A), Salem - 16, TN

[lavanyasekar89@gmail.com](mailto:lavanyasekar89@gmail.com)

*Dawn* (1987) by Octavia Estelle Butler is relevant even today for many reasons. It explores concepts such as symbiosis, hybridity, racism, speciesism, and post humanism. Post humanism as a critical theory developed with the possibilities offered by science and speculative fiction. With the advent of technologies, humans are not very far from the predictions made by the post human theorists and writers. *Dawn* offers post human perspectives in several aspects. The world of vegetation or the representation of the non-human (other than the Oankali) becomes the least explored area in the novel. The Oankali lead a very symbiotic relationship with the non-human entities of their world. Octavia Butler uses the Oankali as her mouthpiece to emphasize the fact that humans are not even close in preserving their environment as the Oankali, which is a shame. Whenever the term non-human is uttered, the attention is drawn towards the aliens. Their flora and fauna is the least explored in the categories of the non-human. The aim of this paper is to analyse how the aliens treat the other life forms of their world to emphasize the effectiveness of the symbiotic relationship. Octavia Butler beautifully explores this relationship in such a way that it could be a lesson to humans.

**Key words:** Dawn, Octavia Butler, Non-human

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## **Narlikar's *Virus*: An Extrapolation of Aphonic Violence by Cyberpunk**

**Dr. Meenal R. Kale**

Assistant Professor

Humanities Department,

Yeshwantrao Chauhan College of Engineering, Nagpur, Maharashtra

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

The future Society will be dominated by computerized high-tech technology. An advanced computerized world can be hacked and destroyed due to aphonic violence of cyberpunk by humans or by extra-terrestrials which may lead to a dark dystopian future. Narlikar's portrays such dark future due to cyberpunk in his work *Virus*. The vertical expansion in space, the urge to know the unknown may lead to the threat from extra-terrestrials. The fiction *Virus* urges advancement with consciousness.

**Keywords:** Virus, extra-terrestrials, Cyberpunk

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## **Eco-centric Approach in English literature**

**Reema Kumari**

Assistant Professor

Govt Arya Degree College, Nurpur Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, 176202

Ph. 9816239900

Literature is an expression of human feelings, thoughts, and ideas whose medium is language, oral or written. It is a product of life. A raw material for any piece of literature - poetry, novel, essay, drama - is always furnished by life. As an expression of life, literature cannot be untouched by nature. Many writers write about nature. Nature writing encompasses a wide variety of works, natural history essay, poetry, essay of solitude or escape as well as travel and adventure writing. Nature writing often draws heavily on scientific information and facts about the natural world and mostly written in first person.

Nature is worshiped in mythology. Nature was used in mythical works to show god's anger and blessings through natural powers of drought, thunder, lightning etc. And poets also gave it an expression in their works to show man's relation with nature. Rigveda describes various components of Eco system which were later discovered by modern scientists. Nature has been personified and worshiped. Yajurveda emphasizes to protect the animals as they are important for environment. They are essential for agriculture and human needs like milk; agriculture etc., killing them is considered a sin. In Greek mythology, nature and mankind have been intertwined since the first story was handed down in ancient Greece. Greeks believed that when humans were created, nature was devoid of hardships. The world became a hostile and difficult place only after their creator, the Titan Prometheus, deigned to steal fire from the Gods and give it to humans.

A literary movement Romanticism spanning roughly 1790-1850 was characterized by a celebration of nature. In romanticism, people and nature were objectified and reduced to commodity status. According to the romantics, the solution was seen as pure and spiritual source of renewal. Awe of nature, which is a mix of fear and respect towards nature, was one of the themes of romantic writers. The Romantic poets felt that man's internal life and the external and the natural world had a lot in common. The nature and human lives can be mysterious, open and vast, wild and free and sometimes terrifying.

Romantic poetry in general and poets like William Wordsworth, William Butler Yeats, Robert Frost in particular are some of the major poets who can be considered the writers of ecocentric studies. Wordsworth's views towards nature and man's treatment of nature have supported his position as an important icon of eco-centric studies. Ecocentric study is a philosophy which places value and importance on the entire environment and all life in it. Ecocentric view says that we are all equal. Man is not superior or inferior to nature but equal and man has the power to control and make nature a suitable place for human life.

A scrutiny of the world, in general, and the human habitat and the environment, in particular, reveals the magnitude of the threat that humanity faces, as all its activities to foster development in every possible area have started to boomerang in an alarming proportion. To guide us to examine the world around us and critiquing the mannerisms of society in the treatment of nature, Eco criticism has emerged as a literary theory that studies the relationship between literature and physical environment.

## Peregrinations into the realms of the Feminist Cyberpunk

**Manasa.G**

Research Scholar,  
Department of English,  
Bangalore University,  
Bangalore, Karnataka, India.  
[manasa.madhukar333@gmail.com](mailto:manasa.madhukar333@gmail.com)

**Dr.K.S. Vaishali**

Professor  
Department of English,  
Bangalore University.  
Bangalore.

As we move into the era of Generation Z, where technological breakthroughs like Metaverse, SpaceX, CryptoWorld, and Virtual Reality, have become increasingly prevalent, by blurring the lines between fiction and reality, we are living the lives that exist in Science Fiction. An aesthetic cohesion of science fiction with phantasmagorical elements of cyberspace entwined with punk music motifs paved way to formation of Cyberpunk fiction as a unique genre. Under multinational corporations' domination, Cyberpunk fiction often features a futuristic world in which technology becomes ubiquitous. Cyberpunk fiction extensively featured male characters, with the occasional presence of stereotypical female characters with insignificant, minor roles. Feminist cyberpunk authors seek to challenge and subvert the patriarchal assumptions and gender roles of traditional cyberpunk literature and explore the experiences of women and other marginalized groups in a world dominated by technology. As a distinct genre, it facilitates women to imagine rather than escape the world with technological mediation and advancements as an added advantage. This paper attempts to explore the terrain and its diverse representations and themes. It also provides an overview of South Asian women cyberpunk writers and how non- Anglo American women writers' contributions brought forth 'feminist post cyberpunk' as a distinct genre.

**Key words:** cyberpunk, feminism, cyborgs, technology, gender.

## **Every Word Matters**

**Wendy Van Camp**

Poet Laureate

City of Anaheim, USA

wendy.vancamp42@gmail.com

<http://wendyvancamp.com>

"Every Word Matters: Using Poetry Concepts to Enrich Your Prose" by Poet Laureate Wendy Van Camp is a paper that explores the use of poetry writing concepts to enhance science fiction novel writing. The paper begins with an introduction that emphasizes the importance of language in effective storytelling. It then delves into six poetry concepts that can help writers infuse their prose with deeper meaning, voice, tone, rhythm and meter, sound devices and word choice.

The paper draws upon a variety of standard writing articles and resources available online, but is grounded in the personal story of the poet author's own exploration of poetry concepts in science fiction. Through their own experiences and research, the author offers practical advice and examples of how to apply these poetry concepts to science fiction writing, offering tips and strategies for using each concept effectively.

The paper argues that by integrating poetry writing concepts into their prose, science fiction and fantasy writers can create works that are more layered and memorable. It concludes with a call to action for writers to experiment with these concepts in their own writing, inviting them to discover the potential of poetry to elevate and transform their prose.

## **Understanding the idea of Trans-human and Brain Computer Interface on Silver-screen: An analysis of the Science fiction film *Attack: Part-I***

**Shivam Sharma**

Research Scholar, New Media Department  
Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh  
Email-id: shivam995sharma@gmail.com

&

**Dr. Ram Pravesh Rai**

Associate Professor, New Media Department  
Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh  
Email-id: rprai1981@gmail.com

Science fiction has always remained an important element to inspire and direct many scientists and researchers to develop the technology of the future. Science fiction has inspired various technologies which seem to be impossible at certain periods but are very common in today's world. Meanwhile, numerous existing scientific technologies have inspired various science fiction aspects that delve into the future of these existing technologies. The idea of Brain Computer Interface technology connects the human with the computer through implanting chips within human brain. There are numerous initiatives all over the world working on the development of this technology. This involves creating Exoskeleton or Neuralink technology. The piece of research aims to analyse the portrayal of various futuristic technologies like Brain Machine Interface and Trans human delineated in the sci-fi film *Attack: Part -I*. The film discusses the development of technology which would help paralyzed people to get an advanced life. The film reveals the marvel of the Brain Machine Interface, which boosts human capabilities and guides humans onto the path of human body enhancement. The paper delves into the prospects of the Brain Machine Interface technology as portrayed in the film. This paper also tries to present a discourse about the assimilation of Humanism & AI (Artificial Intelligence) which leads to the concept of trans-human. It also investigates the concept of Intelligent Robo Assistant (IRA) which synchronizes the human's brain and computers.

**Keywords:** Science Fiction, Artificial Intelligence, Brain Computer Interface, Future Technology, Trans-human, Sci-fi films, Bollywood



## **Feminist Representations and the Creation of a New Fictional Role Model in the Selected Texts of Rhona MacLeod Series**

Maryam Bintah Salim  
Research scholar  
TKM College of Arts and Science, Kollam  
University of Kerala

With the considerable introduction of female forensic doctors in crime fiction since the 1990s, the female corpse has found an ally during the investigation. No longer an object subjected to the male gaze, the female corpse has undergone a change in both representation and identity, from object to subject. The dead remains on the slab as an active character throughout the narratives and this is achieved by the introduction of forensic investigations and the intrusion of science in the crime fiction.

The paper is divided into three sections. The first section titled ‘Female Corpses: The Objects of Eroticization’ talks about the representation of female corpses in crime fiction and the elements of eroticization robbing them of respect and merely showcasing them as objects of voyeurism. This section also tries to explore the views regarding the body and how their role has evolved over time. The second section titled “The Rise of Female Investigators in Crime Fiction” deals with the inclusion of women investigators in crime fiction genre as opposed to the earlier trend wherein women ended up as victims of violence, and how they challenge the patriarchal and traditional expectations that crimes are solved by men. The third section “The Embodied Experience of Rhona in *None but the Dead* (2016) and *The Sins of the Dead* (2018)” deals with the embodied experience of women and how feminism has changed the archetypes and traditions related to women’s roles in the narrative. We also see the different tools and strategies at work from a literary, philosophical and medical humanities point of view.

**Keywords:** Forensic science, female corpses, female investigators, feminism, embodied experience

## PROFILES OF PARTICIPANTS

### ABOUT THE CONFERENCE



Dr. Srinarahari (DoB 14.10.1951 -) has obtained B.Sc., B.Ed., Diploma in Marathi, MA in English literature. He has been awarded doctoral degree for his dissertation on “The Robotistic Works of Isaac Asimov: A Study” by Kuvempu University, Karnataka state. He has put in a total service for 40 years in Government of Karnataka, India. He retired as Principal. After that he is continuing to work as Principal of Animaster College of Animation and Designs in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India till this day. He is an SF writer, critic, columnist, guest speaker, resource person, illustrator, editor, publisher, binder, and book seller; He has constructed the IASFS website and maintains it as webmaster and admin (<https://www.iasfs.in;>). He reports to *Locus* and *Science Reporter*. He has the credit of bringing together all the scholars, writers, and readers of Science Fiction in India. (The Director, Center for Science Fiction Studies, Kansas Professor James Gunn compares Dr. Srinarahari to Thomas Clareson of the USA who had also brought together the SF fandom in the USA). He was invited as a guest to partake in the 81st WorldCon which was held at Chengdu, China from October 18 to 22, 2023. He has been invited to be the Guest of Honour at Levitation/Eastercon 2024: British National Science Fiction Convention which is scheduled to be held at Telford, United Kingdom from March 29, 2024 to April 1, 2024: He is the recipient of the Education Excellence Award 2021 for Award for Contribution to Education Community. Dr. Srinarahari is the Vice President of Asian Science Fiction Association. He is the Secretary-General of Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies®, Bangalore, India ever since it's established in 1998. He was the Distinguished Invited Guest at the Asia-Pacific Science Fiction Conference and the First Asian Science Fiction conference held at Beijing, China. He was one of the distinguished guests in an exclusive session, “How to Organize the Best Science Fiction Conference.” Elizabeth Hull and Francisco Verso were the other two guest speakers. He was the Distinguished Invited Guest for the First Asian Science Fiction Conference held at Chengdu, China. 2 He has published a number of scholarly articles in online and print media journals. His latest article Science Fiction in Kannada is published in *Indian Literature* of Sahitya Academy in its January – February 2024 issue. He has prominently authored *Science Fiction for Sci-Fi Fans* and *Speak Kannada Through English and A Concise Guide to Karnataka*. His Science Fiction Short Stories are published in several anthologies. His Science Fiction works are published in academic.edu, adbhut.in; concatenation.org; Inter Nova; *Locus*; emerald city.com; Indian Journal of Science Fiction Studies; Indian Sci-fi.com; and *Kutuhali*. He has been interviewed and published them in International Radio China; Radio City; FM Rainbow; Delhi AIR, International Children's' Science Fiction forum; Indian Express, Bangalore Mirror, The Times of India, The Deccan Herald and others. He has conducted Science Fiction Short Story Writing Workshop for the children of the age group 13-15 which is acknowledged as a pioneer attempt. They are available in the anthology coedited by him entitled 101 Science Fiction Short Stories Written by Children. Also, he has conducted science fiction writing workshops for all ages and levels namely, Scientists, Science Fiction Writers, Women Science Writers, Research scholars, PG and UG students, Senior citizens, Working Women, Housewives as well as for all levels and age groups. The workshop products are published in the form of books. He has edited an anthology of Marathi Robot stories in Kannada *Yanthra Manava*. It is published by National Center for Science Communicators, Mumbai, India. The article “Indian Science Fiction Magazines” is published in *Locus* March 2024 issue. He has organized 22 Annual Science Fiction Conferences.

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS



**Dr T.S. Anand** worked as Professor of English for two years in the University of Sirte, Libya (2009-2011). Earlier he had an eventful career as a teacher, head of the Postgraduate Dept. of English and eventually retired as Principal of Gujranwala Guru Nanak Khalsa College, Ludhiana (India) in 2008. He was approved Research Supervisor of Panjab University, Chandigarh. Authored, edited and co-edited 18 books of creative literature and criticism, and published a number of papers on Indian English Literature, American, Afro-American and American-Jewish literature. President of Indian Association for American Studies from 2002-2004. President of I.A.A.S. International Conclaves at M.L.S. University, Udaipur (Rajasthan) and Punjabi University, Patiala (Punjab). Winner of Olive I. Reddick Prize for Best Research Paper. Member, Faculty of Languages, Punjab University, Chandigarh and Member, Postgraduate Board of Studies in English (2005-2009). Supervised four Doctoral research projects and fifteen M.Phil. Dissertations on various facets of literature in English.

Currently Dr. T.S. Anand lives in Canada and edits *Literary Voice: A Peer Reviewed Journal of English Studies* (Group II Care List Journal). [dr\_tsanand@yahoo.com] +1-519-250-0747.

### Books authored, edited and co-edited:

<i>Saul Bellow : The Feminine Mystique</i> (1993)	
<i>Contemporary American–Jewish Novel (Two volumes)</i>	1994
<i>Perspectives on the Afro–American Novel</i>	1994
<i>Critical Essays on the American Novel</i>	1994
<i>New Waves in American Literature</i>	1999
<i>Modern American Literature</i>	2000
<i>Modern Indian English Fiction</i>	2002
<i>The American Literary Mosaic</i>	2001
<i>The Harmonies (stories in English)</i>	1987
<i>The Man &amp; the Masks (poems in English)</i>	1988
<i>Vithan di Paed (poems in Panjabi).</i>	1988
<i>A Mosaic of Encounters : India &amp; U.S.A.</i>	1999
<i>Indian Response to American Literature</i>	2004
<i>Images of Women in Fiction</i>	2003
<i>Humanism in Indian English Fiction</i>	2006
<i>Trends in Indian English Literature</i>	2008
<i>Literature of Indian Diaspora</i>	2010
<i>Essays on Legends of American Theatre</i>	2010

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## KEY NOTE ADDRESS



**Dinker Charak** (1970s –) is an interdisciplinary who writes fiction, science fiction, on entrepreneurship and on Product Management. Dinker has done a Master in Computer Application from the International Institute of Professional Studies, Devi Ahilya University, Indore, India. He has a specialized Certificate in Grid Computing from CERN School of Computing, Geneva, has underpinned a prolific career in software product development, entrepreneurship, and literary pursuits. He holds a patent in Advertising Technology. Embarking upon his professional journey, Charak has exhibited a profound influence on various software products, and his technological acumen was further evidenced through collaborations with international research institutions like Fermi lab and CERN. As an entrepreneur, he initiated Gungroo and made a remarkable stride in advertising technology, securing a patent.

In the literary realm, Charak has unveiled a spectrum of human narratives and scientific extrapolations through his works. “Every Passing Has A Story,” his debut, explores the myriad facets of human experiences and emotions, establishing him as a contemplative storyteller. His subsequent works, “#ProMa”, “The Neutrinos Are Coming and Other Stories,” and “The Evolutionist,” entwine his profound business insights, scientific knowledge, and imaginative prowess, offering readers a diverse and insightful reading experience.

Furthermore, Charak has actively imparted his wisdom and experience through product management workshops, collaborating with eminent entities like IIM Ahmedabad’s CIIE, NASSCOM’s 10,000 Start-ups, and Thought Works, thereby perpetuating a legacy that transcends his tangible contributions. His journey stands as a testament to the seamless amalgamation of technological mastery and imaginative exploration, narrating a story that straddles innovation, storytelling, and mentorship, carving out a unique space that blends analytical and creative genius.

More often than not known as an Indian science fiction author renowned for his English short stories that blend scientific concepts, dry humour, and unusual human reactions to science advancements. His stories build ‘A Black Hole Nearby’ universe. In the literary realm, Charak has unveiled a spectrum of human narratives and scientific extrapolations through his works with the common denominator “Every Passing Has a Story,” his debut, explores the myriad facets of human experiences and emotions. He is constructed and maintain the website <https://www.adbhut.in>; as a webmaster and chief editor since two decades.

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## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS



Dr. K. S. PURUSHOTHAMAN, M.A., M.Phil. PGCTE, Ph.D.  
Principal (Rtd) & HOD of English, Tamil Nadu Govt. Arts Colleges.

Dr. K.S. Purushothaman is Founder-President of Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies. He has a B.Sc. and M.A in English (1971-73) from Bangalore University. Started his teaching career in 1973 as a lecturer in a Junior college in Karnataka. He moved to Tamil Nadu Govt. Collegiate service as an Assistant Professor of English in 1975. Retired as Grade I Principal in 2009. Post retirement, he had served as Principal / Visiting Faculty in various colleges.

He is one of the earliest researchers in Science Fiction studies in India, starting with an M.Phil on Ray Bradbury in 1979 under the supervision of Dr Malcom Bosse, Fulbright Prof of English from SUNY and a novelist who supported and encouraged the study of science fiction and a Ph.D. on Asimov in 1990 under the supervision of DR T Prabhakar, HOD of English, Madras University. He Launched **Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies (IASFS)** in 1998 and managed to bring together SF writers and scholars through 22/ 7 National/International Annual Conferences till date, held all over India.

He was also a two term President and a five-time Gen. Secretary of the **Indian Association for American Studies**.

He has presented papers at various seminar and conferences on SF. He has guided scores of scholars for M.Phil. and Ph.D. After more than 4 decades of teaching service he is settled at Vellore: No. 5, 17<sup>th</sup> East Main Road, Gandhinagar, Vellore – 632006.Tamil Nadu.  
Email: [sfksp1951@gmail.com](mailto:sfksp1951@gmail.com) / Mob: 9443309951

He continues to help aspiring SF research scholars and enthuse students to take up SF studies and creative writing through lectures, workshops, seminars and academic gatherings.

## Who is Who

S.No.	Name of the Participants	Profile of the Participants
1	Deebika. A	I MA. English Literature, PG & Research Department of English, Vellalar College for Women (Autonomous), Thindal, Erode. Residence: 71/1, Ariyangkadu, Kanjikovil(Post), Perundurai(Taluk), Erode. 638116 6382226796
2	Adithiyan M	MSc Physics I Year student, St. Joseph's College, Trichy Residence : No.10, 5th cross, Tagore nagar, lawspet, Puducherry-8 6385524718 <a href="mailto:adithiyan.m01@gmail.com">/adithiyan.m01@gmail.com</a>
3	Advaita P Chincholkar	Research Scholar. V.G Vaze College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Autonomous). Mumbai. Residence: Ashirwad', 1st floor, opp. City post office. Tilak Chowk. Kalyan west. 421301. Maharashtra 9321248153/advaita.malse@gmail.com
4	Akash Dayanand Bhosle	Student, St. Joseph's University, Bangalore Residence: #156, 3rd Cross, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G. Palya, D.R.C. Post, Bangalore 560029. 9518501622/ akashbhosle34281@gmail.com
5	Aman Deep Singh	Assistant professor, Nirma University Currently working on AI/post humanist and children's science fiction writers. Residence: Plot 349/2 sector 2b Gandhinagar 382003. 9999565291
6	Ananya K H	Ananya K H, Postgraduate in English Literature, Palakkad Kerala Residence: Koottala Puthan Madam, Vengasseri Post Ottapalam Palakkad District Kerala India 679516. 6282486797
7	Anna Juhi John	Ph. D Research Scholar, foraying into South Asian SF. Central University of Gujarat Residence: 3/403-F Valiaparambil House, Karuvankad, P. O Kundukad, Thrissur, Kerala, 682001. 8707234558
8	Anugraha Sairam	Anchor Residence: No 336/18, third floor, Power Apartments, Chinnapudhur road, Salem. 8825494084
9	Arambam Sophia	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Manipur University. She teaches Economics but loves English literature more and reading novels. Writing stories is a favourite hobby of hers. Residence: Sagolband Meino Leirak, Opposite Mobile Tower. <a href="mailto:9862027264/asophiachanu@gmail.com">9862027264/asophiachanu@gmail.com</a>
10	Ardra P Kumar	Research scholar, -human-machine interaction in select SF works, Department of English, School of Social Sciences and Languages, VIT Vellore Residence: Kausthubham, APRA 112A, Kumarapuram, Medical College PO, Trivandrum, 695011. <a href="mailto:9074806366/ardrapkumar@gmail.com">9074806366/ardrapkumar@gmail.com</a>



11	Chaamili Swetha G.T	Research Scholar Residence: MADHA KOVIL STREET PERATHUR POST. 8220555618/ <a href="mailto:chaamiliswetha@gmail.com">chaamiliswetha@gmail.com</a>
12	Devinder Pal Singh	Dr. Devinder holds degrees from Punjab University, Chandigarh and Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, India He has worked in the field of Education for the past 35 years, most recently as an Academic Expert/Educational Consultant and Director of Cambridge Learning – an organization dedicated to young learners. Devinder is a researcher, writer, and volunteer facilitator in his community. Website: <a href="https://drdpsinghauthor.wordpress.com">https://drdpsinghauthor.wordpress.com</a> Residence: Director, Cambridge Learning, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. L5A 1Y7. 4-215 Mississauga Valley Blvd., Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, L5A 1Y7. +1 4168591856/ <a href="mailto:drdpsn@hotmail.com">drdpsn@hotmail.com</a>
13	Dhara Vasantbhai Thacker	English literature student Residence: 38/B, D2, Old Lotus Colony, OPP G.K. General Hospital, Bhuj, Kutch, Gujarat. 9429791739 <a href="mailto:dhara291998@gmail.com">/dhara291998@gmail.com</a>
14	Dipaliben Shaileshbhai Nayee	Research Scholar, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat Residence : AT- POST BHALAK, TA- VISNAGAR, DIST- MEHSANA.7016326552/7096843994/ <a href="mailto:dipalinayee93@gmail.com">dipalinayee93@gmail.com</a>
15	Divya Shikhar	Research Scholar, GLA University, Mathura. His research interest lies in Eco criticism, Science Fiction, Narratology, and Memory Studies. Residence: C/o Chaudhary Ravindra Kumar, Sayyed Wali Gali, Govardhan Road, Goverdhan Chauraha, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh - 281004. <a href="mailto:919204443021/dshikhar0410@gmail.com">919204443021/dshikhar0410@gmail.com</a>
16	Dr Bandana Devi	Expert to provide instantaneous observation during the online feedback session/s Residence: Assistant Professor, Vallabh Govt. College, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, PIN 175001. 9805411558/
17	Dr Jai Shree	Assistant Professor, Department of English, Govt Degree College Chamba, Himachal Pradesh Residence : VPO Sarol, Tehsil and District Chamba, Himachal Pradesh, Pin 176310 Ph. 9816277724
18	Dr Raman Kumar	Assistant Professor, English, Govt Girls College, Kotla Khurd, Dist. Una 174303. 18 years of teaching experience. Residence : Govt Girls College Kotla Khurd, Distt.Una HP. 919857390858
19	Dr Rippy Bawa	Assistant Professor Dept. of English Govt Degree College, Udhampur Residence : Hajji gali Durga vihar Near toll post Kandoli Nagrota Jammu J&k. 94191 60995
20	Dr. Balaji Anandrao Navle	Prof., Research Guide & Head, Dept. of English, Deogiri College, Aurangabad, MS, India Residence: Row House No. 4, Phoenix, Viraj Pearl, Near Ram Temple & ZP School, Itkheda Village, Paithan Road, Aurangabad. 9860447457



21	Dr.Chinnaswamy Vinodhini	Associate Professor of English, Presidency University, Bangalore. /Chairing a session Residence: No.402, Sri Aradhana Apartments, Suryavanshi Layout, Nagenahalli, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560064 / Mob:9940212718 Email: <a href="mailto:drcvinodhini@gmail.com">drcvinodhini@gmail.com</a>
22	Dr. A. Noble Jebakumar	Dr. A. Noble Jebakumar, Assistant Professor, Research Advisor, Thanthai Periyar Govt. Arts and Science College, <a href="http://Tiruchirappalli">Tiruchirappalli</a> <a href="mailto:drnoblejk@gmail.com">/drnoblejk@gmail.com</a> Residence : Jeno Chalet, Plot no:35, Kumaran Nagar, South Extension, Vayalur Road, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, 620017, India/ 9952688838
23	Dr.Krishnamurthy G	Professor, Dept. of Chemistry, Bangalore University, Jnanabharathi, Bangalore-560056. Convenor of 21st IASFS Conference Residence : No. I - 1101, Brigade Gateway, Dr Rajkumar Road, Malleswaram West, Bangalore 560055./9449523166
24	Dr. S. Deepa Priyadharsini	Guest Lecturer, Govt. Arts College for Women, Kanjirangal, Sivagangai. Published more than ten research papers in Scopus indexed and Refereed National and International Journals. University topper and rank holder in Master's and M.Phil. Having a great passion to build the future generation with morals. Residence : D1, Alagappa Polytechnic Quarters, Alagappapuram, Karaikudi TN/9698321061
25	Dr. Smaranjit Singha	Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, Ramkrishna Nagar College, Karimganj, Assam. Residence : C/O: Jitendra Singha, B.T. Road, P.O. Lala, Dist. Hailakandi, Assam-788163/ 8011688214
26	Dr. V.Sangeetha	Professor & Head, Department of English, Periyar University, Salem, TN Her areas of specialization are Australian and Canadian Literatures. She is interested in the current trends of literature, commonwealth literature, Tamil literature, and translation studies. She has published three books, and many of her articles have appeared in peer-reviewed journals and books. She is also a Co-author. Her Ph.D. Scholar will present the paper. Residence: B4, Fourth Floor, Inesh Apartment, PRP Street No.3. Periya Pudhur, Salem - 16, TN/ 9629974664
27	Dr.Amanpreet Kaur	Assistant professor in P.G. Dept of English, G.SMS. D.G.S. Khalsa College Patiala, Punjab, India, Cultural Studies and Foreign Languages. Her research interests are Diaspora literature, Communication skills, Linguistics, American literature. Residence : #17/6, Street no 1-B, Guru Nanak Nagar, Patiala, Punjab, India 147001/9855148802
28	Dr. Rukmini S	Senior Assistant professor Grade 2, Department of English, School of Social Sciences and Languages, VIT University, Vellore, Tamil Nadu-631014./

		8790984172/ <a href="mailto:rukminikrishna123@gmail.com">rukminikrishna123@gmail.com</a>
29	Dr. Sonali Santosh Kadam	Associate Professor in Botany Department. R. P. Gogate and R. V. Jogalekar College Ratnagiri Maharashtra. Ph. D. Research guide, published about 25 research paper in National and International journal and conference, NSS Program Officer for 9yrs, Leadership quality, Motivator, Teacher Mentor. Life Member for IASFS Residence : 9420524646493, Sai Prasad Kawarau Behind R. K. Furniture,MIDC Post , Kuwarbau Ratnagiri, 415639 Maharashtra India
30	Dr. Gobinath Renganathan	Guest Lecturer Residence :410,13th Cross Street, Cheran Jeeva Nagar, Palani-624601./ 8838895044
31	Greeshma Johny	Research Scholar, Department of English and Cultural Studies, Christ Deemed to be University, Bangalore. Her research area is Indian Science Fiction in English. Her M.Phil. Thesis was titled "Literature and Artificial Intelligence: A Psycholinguistic Study of Post Human Becoming's in Select Works". She would like to bring into the limelight the neglected genre of Indian Science Fiction and its potential. Residence : Naduthottiyil House, Vellad P.O, Kannur District, Kerala, 670571/9400446220/ <a href="mailto:greeshma.johny@res.christuniversity.in">greeshma.johny@res.christuniversity.in</a>
32	Harish Goyal	An eminent science fiction writer. Published more than 100 sf stories, 50 sf books including 6 science fiction novels. Presenting a paper Residence :59 Shastri Nagar, Ajmer/ <a href="mailto:8955671121/harishgoyal1950@gmail.com">8955671121/harishgoyal1950@gmail.com</a>
33	Harsh Kumar Singh	MA English Student at St. Xavier's University. A student of English, enthusiastic about Gaming, fantasy fiction, science fiction and postmodernism, planning to pursue Ph.D. soon. Loves playing RPG video games and has been a fan of Tolkien, Asimov and other Speculative fiction writers since childhood. Residence :28 Chakraberia Road South /9007745672
34	Hashmithaa Saravanan	Student - studying II.M.A., English in Sri Sarada College for women(Autonomous), Salem -16/ Presenting a paper Residence :82, Syed Madar Street, Shevapat, Salem-2/ <a href="mailto:8610230587/srinithaahash870@gmail.com">8610230587/srinithaahash870@gmail.com</a>
35	Hemalatha S.	M. A., Conference Convener, Sri Sarada College for Women (Autonomous) Salem-16. She is a bilingual poet, a content writer, ex-NCC cadet. Her poems have been published in both English and Tamil. Residence :3/198 -1 Puttur Iteri Road, Kodambaikadu, Nethimedu, Salem -2 9994015102
36	Himani Choudhary	Himani is a research scholar at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. Her area of interest includes cultural studies, science fiction, and environment and

		gender studies. She more interested in the materiality of all these components together, as reflected by the new-wave science fiction writers. Residence : H No. 170, Narwal Pain, Satwari, Jammu/ <a href="mailto:himani.choudhary007@gmail.com">himani.choudhary007@gmail.com</a>
37	Jimal Harishkumar Patel	Ph.D. scholar at SPU, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand, Gujarat. The broad area of his research is Indian Science Fiction. He has always been a sci-fi enthusiast and is delighted to have got a chance of doing research in Indian Science Fiction. Presenting a paper Residence : At&P Galodiya, Ta Khedbrahma, Di Sabarkantha, Navanagar, PIN <a href="mailto:383275/7874733073/Pateljimal@gmail.com">383275/7874733073/Pateljimal@gmail.com</a>
38	Karunakaran	Karunakaran is a PhD Research scholar @ Thanthai Periyar Govt. Arts and Science College, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu. His area of research is English Language Teaching and Learning. Residence :401-A, KODALIKUDI, NAMBANPATY, Viralmalai Taluk, Pudukkottai Dt,621312, Tamil Nadu, India/ <a href="mailto:karunab120497@gmail.com">karunab120497@gmail.com</a>
39	Kritika Varma	Research Scholar, Dept., of English, Shoolini University, Solan, HP, India. A curious, intellectual, pragmatic individual who likes to explore different aspects of human existence and in that venture has switched to Eng. Lit. From computers and currently writing thesis on Science Fiction Residence : Vill- Jabli, PO- Oachghat, Dist.-The, Solan, HP 173223/ 9842198409/9857615770
40	Lucie Lukačovičová	Lucie Lukačovičová is a science-fiction writer, translator, cultural anthropologist and creative writing teacher from Prague, Czech Republic. She has lived for some time in Angola, Cuba, Germany, England and India. She received a master's degree in Librarianship and Cultural Anthropology at the Charles University in Prague. She has published over 100 short stories in Czech, many articles, 7 novels and other 5 novels with co-authors. She has received the European SF Society Encouragement Award and twice the prestigious Czech Karel Čapek Award. She likes literary experiments and blending of genres; loves travelling, collecting legends, folktales and ghost stories. Has also published short texts and poetry in Chinese, English, German, Romanian, Italian, Portuguese and Kannada language. Residence : Valčíkova 8, 182 00 Praga 8, CZECH REPUBLIC/ 00420 602 966 750 (no What's app)/ <a href="mailto:lucie.lukacovicova@gmail.com">lucie.lukacovicova@gmail.com</a>
41	Manasa G	Research Scholar working on cyberpunk science fiction at Bangalore University. Presenting a paper Residence : W/O Amarnath.B.A,Busanahalli, Sugtur Hobli,Kolar District./ 9845279811
42	Maryam Salim	Research Scholar, TKM College of Arts and Science, Kollam, Kerala. Worked as a Content Writer online for quite some time and also has experience in the teaching field. Currently, is also the Joint Secretary of the All India Forum for English Students, Scholars, and Trainers. Her research

		area is Scottish serial killer narratives. Works under the guidance of Dr. J.S. Jahangir. Residence : House no:64, Jubilee Nagar, Kallattumukku, Manacaud PO Trivandrum - 695009/7356861651
43	Meenal Kale	Assistant Professor, Dept of English, YCCE, Nagpur. Area of interest – Indian Science Fiction Residence : Near Telecom Nagar, 'Swami' 62, Pandurang Gawande Nagar/9326041801
44	Naveen Kelvin Dalmeida	Assistant Professor, Department of Postgraduate Studies and Research in English, St Aloysius College (Autonomous), Residence: Mangaluru- 575 003. Ph. no. 9902159470
45	Nishita Patel	She is a student pursuing M.A. ENGLISH from St. Joseph's University, Bengaluru. Through literature and studying it, she has come to discover her passion for analysing and decoding things that are around us every day and then relating it with whatever has been read. The love for research and the love for fiction go hand in hand for her because she sees fiction being born from the very essence of our lives. When not talking about her love for analysing books, she is reading them, holding a cup of tea and painting a world in her mind. She is also enthusiastic about forming fun book clubs and forming new friendships through discussing and decoding literature. Presenting a paper. Residence: Kumari Residency, Devarachiknahalli. Bommanahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka, 560076/ 9939053955/nishitapatel05@gmail.com
46	Piyush Kumar	Research Scholar, Department of English, Central University of South Bihar, Gaya, Bihar. Research area is Science Fiction and Post human studies. Residence : Piyush Kumar, C/O- Baal Brinda Prasad, Near Hamara Apna School, Ashok Nagar, Katari Hill Road, GAYA, BIHAR 823001./6200591566/8750679630/ piyushkumar@cusb.ac.in
47	Raghvendra Shrikrishna Vanjari	Works at Azim Premji University, Bengaluru. Very recently started reading and writing SF in Marathi. He is more interested to work in this genre in Marathi language particularly because, nature writing and fictional short story writing had improved his grip on the comprehension of the subject as a whole. When not in office, he spends time in library or in nature for bird watching and painting. More about him in university's webpage - <a href="https://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/people/raghvendra-shrikrishna-vanjari">https://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/people/raghvendra-shrikrishna-vanjari</a> Residence : Research Centre, Azim Premji University, 66 - Burgunte Village, Bikkanaahalli Rd, Sarjapura, Bengaluru, Karnataka 562125./9028769182/raghvendra.vanjari@apu.edu.in

48	Ravichandra Parthasarathy Chittampalli	<p>Dr Ravichandra P Chittampalli was formerly Professor and Chair, Department of Studies in English, University of Mysore. He was the K Tirumalachar Fellow, Dhvanyaloka, Mysore; twice Shashtri Fellow, and Northrop Frye Fellow, Northrop Frye Center, university of Victoria in the University of Toronto. He was formerly the President of the Indian Association for Canadian Studies, and was one of the Directors of International Council for Canadian Studies, Ottawa, Canada. His English translation of a major modernist Kannada novel, The Avatars of Bhujangaiah is on the postgraduate syllabus of University of Mysore and the Karnataka State Open University. His poems are taught on B A courses in Karnataka State Open University and Mahajana's Autonomous College. Apart from many of his translations from Kannada into English, recently, Sahitya Akademi, the national Academy of Letters in India has published his Kannada Literature from 13th Century through 19th Century: A Reader in English, edited and translated jointly with Professor M G Hegde. His poems and research articles have been published in journals and periodicals of national and international repute. He now lives in Malaysia and writes poetry in English. Ravichandra was born in Kolar and most of his education was in Mysore. He studied Linguistics, Sociology, Psychology as an undergraduate and English Literature for his Masters. His PhD was on the poetry of A.D. Hope. He taught Cultural Studies, Feminism and Immigrant Literature apart from traditional courses at the University of Mysore.</p> <p>Residence :39, Jalan SL13/7, Bandar Sungai Long 43000, Kajang, Selangor, Malaysia/' +60 16 657 7237</p>
49	Reema Kumari	<p>Assistant Professor in English. Govt Arya Degree College, Nurpur Kangra, HP176202</p> <p>Residence : Govt Arya Degree College Nurpur Kangra.Himachal Pradesh 176202/ 9816239900</p>
50	S. Lavanya	<p>Assistant Professor of English, Sri Sarada College for Women, Salem - 16, TN She completed her M.A., M. Phil (English Literature), topped the University examinations, bagged two gold medals for the same. She is an alumnus of Bishop Heber College, Trichy, TN and Bharathidasan University, Trichy, TN. She has cleared NET in her first attempt and got placed in Sarada College, Salem, TN. She is pursuing her Doctoral Research on the works of Octavia Butler. Her areas of interest are speculative fiction, Afrofuturism, gender studies, social contemporary issues and literary theories. She has to her credit several research articles published in reputed UGC listed national and international journals. She also dabbles in poetry and has published two books titled My Musings (2022) and Far from The Stars (2022).</p> <p>Residence : B4, Fourth Floor, Inesh Apartment, PRP Street NO.3, Periya Pudhur, Salem - 16, TN/ 9629974664</p>

51	Sagar Raghunath Surwase	Science fiction Reader & Researcher Residence : Bale Solapur 413255
52	Saranya S	Research Scholar, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore. Residence : Jayasree Hostel, No 1, Ramalingam Colony, Saibaba Colony, Opposite Avinashilingam University Gate 2, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, 641043/ 7592968116 /sharutty286@gmail.com.
53	Savitha Srinivas, IPS	Presently working as Superintendent of Police in Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Bengaluru. Prolific SF Writer, participated as Panelist Residence : Savitha Srinivas, No.402, A1, Sharavathi Block, National Games Village, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560047/ 8618479191
54	Sayan Chattopadhyay	Sayan is a Ph.D. Scholar from Adamas University, Kolkata, India. He holds a Master's degree in English Literature and is a two-time University Topper. He researches in the field of Science Fiction Literature. He has keen interest in understanding the changing perspectives of postmodern concepts focused upon the "assumed" politicised Science Fiction of 20th and 21st Century. His papers on Dystopian and Utopian concepts, Post-animalism and Politics in SF have been selected for presentation at multiple National and International conferences including the PopCRN 2022, SUS Conference 2022, etc. His most recent paper on the politics behind Superhero costumes has been selected for presentation at "The Uniform", an international conference by The University of New England by this coming April end and the same paper has also been selected for a special journal edition of Clothing Cultures (Indexed in Scopus and WoS). His publication currently includes research articles in Elsevier, MLA and EBSCO which could be read at his ResearchGate/Scholar profile and multiple short stories in the genre of Science Fiction from different Publication houses, which are openly available to read at his Scribd page. Residence: Chatterjees, Sewli Telenipara, Debpukur, Barrackpore, Kolkata, West Bengal, India. Pin - 700121/6289381120/ sayanphd11@gmail.com
55	Shivam	Shivam is a Research Scholar from Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala in the School of Journalism, Mass Communication & New Media. He has worked as reporter for past years while his interest in cinema and science fiction leads him to pursue his research in the field of Science Fiction Cinema. He is a writer and storyteller by heart, who wants to rule on the people's heart through his writing. Residence : Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala, 176215/ 8627069058

56	Seema Rajendra Kulkarni	<p>Seema Kulkarni hails from Dharwad in Karnataka. Her educational qualifications include M.Sc. and M.Phil. in physics besides a diploma in French from Karnataka University, Dharwad. She is presently the volunteer - coordinator in one of the Myanmar Refugees Community Learning Centres affiliated to UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She has released her first poetry collection in Kannada (2018), and a second one (Joint, Kannada) in 2022. Her first science fiction story in English titled 'A Scientist's Clairvoyance' has been selected to an anthology on Covid19 in India – it is yet to be published. 'A Red Trajectory' and 'Hacked!?' – These are the two SF stories in English presented in previous online conferences organized by IASFS. Her science articles, short stories, essays, poems and translated South East Asian folk stories into Kannada for children have been featured in leading Kannada newspapers and magazines (including web).</p> <p>Residence :( Local Address) Seema Kulkarni, Surabhi, 2nd cross Kalyan Nagar, Dharwad- 580007, Karnataka State/ '+60-12-3146035/ seema.raj.kulkarni@gmail.com</p>
57	Shreya Bhattacharji	<p>Dr. Shreya Bhattacharji is Professor in the Department of English Studies, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi, India. Her academic interests include Postcolonial Studies, especially African, Afro-American, Caribbean, Queer and Women's Writings, Border and Partition Studies and Contemporary Literary Theories. She has published widely and has been invited to numerous conferences in India as also in the United States, France, Hungary, South Africa and South Korea. Formerly a Civil Services Officer, she also nurtures a keen interest in human rights, tribal and gender issues.</p> <p>Residence : Department of English Studies, Central University of Jharkhand, Cheri-Manatu, Ranchi-835222(Jharkhand), India/ 8292694422</p>
58	Shubhanchhi Pandey	<p>Shubhanchhi Pandey is a research scholar at SoS in literature and languages PRSU Raipur. His research interest includes fiction and mainly Children's Literature and their effect on both youth and children reading them.</p> <p>Residence : h.no218, Professor Colony, Near Shakti Mandir Bhaiya Talab Raipur 492001/ 9399883159</p>



59	Smita Vijay Potnis	<p>Freelancer Author. Smita Vijay Potnis is a Sci Fi author with published stories in Marathi and Hindi. Her stories and articles have been printed within major books, several regional magazines and newspapers. In addition to 'writing' science fiction stories and she has written one act plays, presented programs on Akashwani, and has created &amp; been managing her you tube channel called Marathi Sci fi Stories Hub. This channel was created to share sci fi stories through digital medium. The reason behind to start this channel to put her efforts as science communicator. Outside Science fiction, she enjoys directing theatrical plays. Last year, her one act play won second prize in one act play Avishay competition. She has accomplished a few publications - one concerning the story of Draupadi from Mahabharata, and a couple of religious books.</p> <p>Residence: A-201, DSK Harita, Nr. Cambridge school, Thakur Complex, Kandivali (East), Mumbai- 400101/9820611206/ potnissmita7@gmail.com</p>
60	Sona S	<p>She is in final year M.A. English at Sri Sarada College for women (autonomous), Salem. Feels extremely glad to participate and to anchor in this wonderful platform. As a literature person, she likes to share the exotic features of the genre called "Science Fiction" which is often known as the "Literature of ideas" and how it manipulates in the lives of mortal beings. This world is full of diamonds &amp; gems. Fortunately, we are going to have some of them through this conference!!!</p> <p>Residence :164C, Alania Gondar Islam, China Pudhur, Salem - 636007/ 9344699281/ <a href="mailto:sonasheelal14@gmail.com">sonasheelal14@gmail.com</a></p>
61	Wendy Van Camp	<p>Wendy Van Camp is the Poet Laureate for the City of Anaheim, California. She is an author, speculative poet, workshop instructor, and anthology editor. Her writing has been nominated twice for a Pushcart Prize, for a Dwarf Star Award, and her debut poetry collection has been nominated twice for the Elgin Award for Best Speculative Poetry Book of the Year. She is best known for her science fiction haiku and astropoetry.</p> <p>Residence :1882 N. Garland Lane, Anaheim, CA 92807/ 17146758546</p>
62	Zeashan Zaidi	<p>Science Fiction Writer from Lucknow writing in Hindi. He is a student of science, did M.Sc. and PhD in Statistics</p> <p>Residence :390/39A, Mehdi Colony, Rustam Nagar, Lucknow/ 8318887006/ <a href="mailto:zeashanzaidi@gmail.com">zeashanzaidi@gmail.com</a></p>

Science Fiction explores the impossible in possible ways. Likewise, identify the possible ways to achieve the impossible.

