



Activity Report of an International Webinar on “Epidemics, Body, and Medicines: Inquiries through Literary and Cultural Texts”

1. **Name of the Webinar:** “Epidemics, Body, and Medicines: Inquiries through Literary and Cultural Texts”
2. **Organized by:** Department of English, Gokhale Memorial Girls' College.
3. **Aim of the Webinar:** Held during the Covid 19 Pandemic, this webinar sought to explore, through critically guided readings of various literary and cultural texts, historical and fictional experiences of epidemics, how our “body” as both the corporal body of the individual and the collective body of the community respond to them, how modern medicine has transformed our perception of both our body and the epidemic, and most importantly, how such experiences and their interpretations are to be problematized.
4. **Date:** 13th June to 15th June, 2020
5. **Duration in hours:** Nine Hours approximately.
6. **Number of Participants:** 200 per session (approximately)
7. **Name of Speakers with title of their speech, designation and Affiliation:**

Name of Speakers	Title of the speech	Designation	Affiliation
Prof. Dr. Bashabi Fraser	“From the Beginning Salvation Comes”	Professor Emerita and Former Professor of English & Creative Writing	Edinburgh Napier University
Prof. Amrit Sen	“Let the Boundaries of this Village Become Our Whole World”: Women and the Plague in <i>Year of Wonders</i> (2001)”	Professor	Department of English, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan
Dr. Manikarnika Dutta	“Understanding	Guest Lecturer	Oxford Brookes



GOKHALE MEMORIAL GIRLS' COLLEGE

	Pandemics: A Historical Perspective"		University
Dr. Minu Susan Koshy	"The Diseased Nation and its Discontents: Reading the Epidemic Body and the Politics of Non-Belonging in India"	Assistant Professor	Mar Thoma College for Women, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala.
Dr. Sourit Bhattacharya	"Colonial Epidemics and Literary Form: Reading Kipling and Sharatchandra"	Lecturer in Postcolonial Studies	Department of English Literature, University of Glasgow
Dr. Anustup Basu	Epidemics and Modern Governmentality	Associate Professor in English, Media and Cinema Studies and Criticism	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

8. Outcome of the Webinar: A panel of eminent speakers, through their scholarly lectures, discussed representations of epidemics in literature and culture, implications of which are not limited to past events but considerably applicable to the present scenario as well. This webinar provided a better knowledge of and a deeper insight into our understanding of epidemic diseases and their socio-political, cultural and economic repercussions.

9. Video Link of the Webinar:

<https://youtu.be/TqFXyfZl2is>

<https://youtu.be/WxN1JF2arsc>

https://youtu.be/GTV_Zq8kKTs

<https://youtu.be/ranERFP8pUM>



GOKHALE MEMORIAL GIRLS' COLLEGE

