

ISSN 0973-3671 Volume 15 2022

JOURNAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

UGC-CARE Enlisted National Level Peer Reviewed Annual Journal



VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY

Midnapore, West Bengal, India

ISSN 0973-3671 Volume 15 2022

JOURNAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

UGC-CARE Enlisted National Level Peer Reviewed Annual Journal



VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY

Midnapore, West Bengal, India



Athadikar
Principal
S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya
Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur

JOURNAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
UGC-CARE Enlisted National Level Peer Reviewed Annual Journal
Volume 15 2022



VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY

Midnapore, West Bengal, India



Ahadi Khan
Principal
S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya
Galtore, Paschim Medinipur

JOURNAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY
UGC-CARE Enlisted National Level Peer Reviewed Annual Journal

Volume 15 2022

Chief Editor:

Dr. Jolly Das, Head of the Department, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal, 721102,
Email: editor_english@mail.vidyasagar.ac.in

Editorial Board:

Prof. Saugata Bhaduri, Centre for English Studies School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Email: bhaduris@hotmail.com

Prof. Sipra Mukherjee, Department of English, West Bengal State University, Barasat, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, Email: mukherjesipra@gmail.com

Prof. Goutam Buddha Sural, Department of English, Bankura University, Bankura, West Bengal, Email: gbsural@yahoo.co.in

Prof. Indranil Acharya, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal, 721102, Email: acharya.indranil@gmail.com

Prof. Joyjit Ghosh, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal, 721102, Email: joyjitghosh@mail.vidyasagar.ac.in

Mr. Hemant Kumar Golapalli, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal, 721102, Email: hemantkumargolapalli@gmail.com

Mr. Shubhendu Shekhar Naskar, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal, 721102,
Email: shubhendu.sapphire@gmail.com

Advisory Board:

Prof. Anita Singh, Department of English, Banaras Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh, Email: anitasinghh@gmail.com

Prof. Abhijit Sen, Department of English, Visva Bharati, West Bengal, Email: abhijitsen51@yahoo.co.in

Prof. Abhijit Gupta, Department of English, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, Email: offog1@gmail.com

Prof. Mani Meitei, Department of English, Manipur Central University, Manipur, Email: meitei.mm@gmail.com



Shadikun
Principal
S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya
Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur

JOURNAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY
UGC-CARE Enlisted National Level Peer Reviewed Annual Journal

Volume 15 2022

For all editorial communications:

The Chief Editor

Department of English
Vidyasagar University
West Bengal, India

Copies of the Journal are available at *Granthaguccha* (sales emporium),
Administrative Building, Vidyasagar University

Price
Rs. 500/-
Rs. 250/- for students

Published by: The Registrar, Vidyasagar University and printed by him at
ALAPAN, Baishakhipally, VU Road, Midnapore (9474506458)



Aphadika
Principal
S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya
Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur

Hesse's <i>Siddhartha</i> (1922): A Soulful Synthesis of Tradition and Modernity	192
<i>Shangshita Goswami</i>	
Re-reading the Cosmic Myth of Creation and Destruction in Tagore's <i>Muktadhara</i> : A Discussion	198
<i>Shovan Maity</i>	
The Aesthetics of Rupture in Assimilation of the East-West and the Year 1922: A Reading of Tagore's <i>Creative Unity</i>	206
<i>Shweta Sur</i>	
Revisiting the Idea of Belongingness and Alienation in Eugene O'Neill's <i>The Hairy Ape</i> through Mikhail Bakhtin's notion of the Carnavalesque, Grotesque, and Masks	215
<i>Sindhura Dutta</i>	
Orientalist Revulsion: A Joycean Tryst with Modernity in <i>Ulysses</i>	225
<i>Sk. Sagir Ali</i>	
Is Richmal Crompton a 'Conservative Modernist'? Re-reading <i>Just William</i>	233
<i>Soumyadeep Chakraborty</i>	
Modernity and the Alienated Self: A Critical Reading of D.H. Lawrence's <i>Aaron's Rod</i>	243
<i>Sriya Das</i>	
Culture, Cohesion, and Creativity in Tagore's <i>Creative Unity</i> (1922)	251
<i>Subham Dutta</i>	
"Young martyr of young blood!": Cosmopolitan Style and War against Empire in Nazrul's <i>Kāmāl Pāshā</i> .	265
<i>Subhasnata Mohanta and Subhadeep Ray</i>	
Caught between Art and Crisis: Identity in Mandelstam's "Art of Parting"	275
<i>Sukla Kisku</i>	
Gabriela Mistral's Exploration of Loss, Sorrow and Passionate Longing in Select Poems from <i>Desolacion</i>	288
<i>Supromit Maiti</i>	



S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya
Principal
Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur

Re-reading the Cosmic Myth of Creation and Destruction in Tagore's *Muktadhara*: A Discussion

Shovan Maity

Abstract

Mukta Dhara is an abiding testimony to Rabindranath Tagore's celebration of the cosmic myth of creation and destruction. In order to subjugate, Ranajit, the king of Uttarkut builds a huge dam across Mukta Dhara with the help of the brain-strong royal engineer, Bibhuti who is aided by his 'new machine god' that represents modern science, the very antithesis of the will of the benevolent creator. That Rabindranath has conceived of Prince Abhijit in terms Lord Shiva - the destroyer and the preserver - is well borne out by the fact that he breaks the dam at its weak point and frees Mukta Dhara for the people of Shiv Terai, though at the cost of his own life. The tinkling sonorous flow of the emancipated Mukta Dhara that helps Shiv Terai to pulsate with new life is reminiscent of the myth of salvation of the Ganges from the holy lock of Lord Shiva – a fateful release that is believed to yield in fertility of the earth. This paper purports to explore how man's intoxication with and conceited use of 'power' represented by the creation of the dam in the play ultimately destroys creation, which awaits renewal and purgation by bold sacrificial figures like Abhijit.

Keywords: myth, creation, destruction, incarnation, salvation, subjugation



Department of English | Vidyasagar University

Aphadixan

Principal
S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya, Goaltore
Paschim Medinipur, Pin-721128

The Oxford Dictionary of English defines myth as 'a traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people or explaining some natural or social phenomenon, and typically involving supernatural beings or events'. Generally speaking, myth is something imaginative and far away from the facts and from history. The origin of the word myth is the ancient Greek word *mythos* which means 'speech or narrative'. But, down the ages it has undergone several changes and explications. Professor Lillian Feder has provided a very succinct definition of myth. According to her,

Myth is a story involving human limitations and superhuman striving and accomplishments which suggest through action usually of a ritual, ceremonial or compulsive nature, man's attempt to express and thus control his own anxiety about those features of his psychological and physiological make up and his external environment which he cannot comprehend, accept or master. The characters of myth may be gods, men or monstrous creatures with the qualities both, but even in myths, dealing exclusively with immortals, the narrative material, the portrayal of conflict and sorrow, and the resolution or revelation are all reflections of human concerns. (11)

So, myth is characterized by its antique origin, myriad permutations and ambiguous nature.

Across the globe there are diverse types of myth. Scholars and critics categorize them as either ritual myths or creation myths or nature myths or gender myths or culture myths and so on. Creation myth or cosmic myth denotes how the universe has been created by the creator. Each religion has its own creation myth. In Hinduism creation is mentioned as cyclic. It is stated in the Upanishads that the cosmos with all types of animals including human beings pass through recurring cycles of creation and destruction. The Puranas also speak of the same pattern of creation, destruction and re-creation of the universe. The Hindus believe that Lord Brahma is the creator of this globe; Lord Vishnu, with His potency protects the world and its denizens and Lord Shiva is called the destroyer who destroys the creation only to renew it. So, this *Trimurty* (Trinity) is responsible for the cycle of birth, life and death in this world.

In Shaivism Lord Shiva is not altogether described as the destroyer. The Shaivites find in Him a rare combination of contradictory aspects. To them, Shiva is both benevolent and terrifying; destroyer and creator, transcendent and immanent. He is the 'cosmic dancer' who creates the perpetual rhythm of this universe. The image of the dancing Shiva (Nataraj) combines within it the cosmic actions like creation, destruction, protection, divine complacency etc. It is from his thick matted hair ('jata') that the sacred river Ganges emerges to destroy the ominous and restore life on earth.

Literature has been adapting myths into its bulk since antiquity. In an engaging manner experts have received, revised and reformulated myths at different points of time in history. The flexible construction of myths sanctions the writers to rejuvenate and contemporize them. Indian English drama, though young in age, has addressed various socio-political, socio-religious, socio-cultural issues vis-a-vis mythical stories, legendary tales, historical facts and day to day events. Noted playwrights like Aurobindo Ghosh, Rabindranath Tagore, T.P Kailasam, Badal Sircar, Girish Karnad, Uma Parameswram, et. al. have extensively made use of both indigenous and foreign myths in their plays to voice their concern for the present scenario as well as to critique the turmoils of contemporary



Department of English | Vidyasagar University

Anadi
Principal
S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya
Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur

**VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY
MIDNAPORE**

Department of English

Our Contributors

Sl. No.	Name of the Author	Bio-note
1	Abhisek Pal	M.Phil Scholar, Department of English, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, West Bengal.
2	Agnibha Maity	Junior Research Fellow, Department of English, University of North Bengal, Siliguri, Darjeeling, West Bengal.
3	Aishwarya Banerjee	Postgraduate Student, Department of English, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, West Bengal.
4	Aishwarya Singh	M.Phil Scholar, Department of English, University of Delhi.
5	Amitrajeet Mukherjee	M.Phil Scholar, Department of English, University of Delhi.
6	Dr. Ashish Kumar Pathak	Assistant Professor, Department of English, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
7	Dr. Auritra Munshi	Assistant Professor, Department of English, Raiganj University, Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal.
8	Dr. Beetoshok Singha	Assistant Professor, Department of English, Debra Thana Sahid Kshudiram Smriti Mahavidyalaya, Debra, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal.
9	Jain Mary Sajeev	Ph.D Scholar, Department of English, Sacred Heart College, Thevara, Cochin, Kerala.
10	Dr. Jolly Das	Associate Professor, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal.
11	Prof. Joyjit Ghosh	Professor, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal.
12	Madhumita Kundu	Ph.D Scholar, Department of English and Foreign Languages, Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chattisgarh.
13	Md. Shahnawaz	Ph.D Scholar, Department of English, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, West Bengal.



S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya
Principal
Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 14 | Nabanita Roy | Ph.D Scholar, Department of English, University of North Bengal, Siliguri, Darjeeling, West Bengal. |
| 15 | Nandini Saha | M.Phil Scholar, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal. |
| 16 | Dr. Pritesh Chakraborty
And
Anuradha Dosad | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Acharya Sukumar Sen Mahavidyala, Gotan, Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal.

Ph.D Scholar, Department of English Adamas University, Kolkata, West Bengal. |
| 17 | Dr. Rima Chakraborty | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Surendranath College, Kolkata, West Bengal. |
| 18 | Dr. Samik Sen | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Naba Barrackpur Prafulla Chandra Mahavidyalaya, Kolkata, West Bengal. |
| 19 | Sanju Bera | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Sukumar Sengupta Mahavidyalaya, Keshpur, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal. |
| 20 | Dr. Saptarshi Mallick | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Sukanta Mahavidyalaya, Dhupguri, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal. |
| 21 | Saranya Mukherjee | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Government General Degree College, Keshiary, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal. |
| 22 | Sebonti Roy Chowdhury | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Tufanganj Mahavidyalaya, Coochbehar, West Bengal. |
| 23 | Shangshita Goswami | Ph.D Scholar, Department of English, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, Birbhum, West Bengal. |
| 24 | Shovan Maity | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Santal Bidroha Sardha Satabarshiki Mahavidyalaya, Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal. |
| 25 | Shweta Sur | Lecturer, English Programme, Humanities and Social Sciences Department, Assam Down Town University, Assam. |
| 26 | Sindhura Dutta | M.Phil Scholar, Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal. |
| 27 | Sk. Sagir Ali | Assistant Professor, Department of English, Midnapore College (Autonomous), Midnapore, West Bengal. |



Shadira
Principal
S.B.S.S. Mahavidyalaya
Goaltore, Paschim Medinipur