

PREFACE TO THE EDITION

Our cherished readers and writers,

I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and contributions to IJELRS. Your curiosity and creativity fuel this journal, making it a vibrant space for intellectual exchange and discovery. To our readers, may these articles inspire you to question, reflect, and engage with the world in new ways. To our writers, thank you for entrusting us with your bold ideas and rigorous scholarship—your work shapes the future of literary and cultural studies. Let us continue this journey together, fostering a community that celebrates diverse voices and fearless inquiry.

This issue of the **International Journal of English Language Research Studies (IJELRS)** is a dynamic collection of research that illuminates new pathways in literary and cultural studies. It embodies the vibrant, interdisciplinary pulse of contemporary English scholarship, challenging conventional frameworks while offering fresh perspectives on literature, culture, identity, and digital expression.

We begin with a compelling exploration of Dalit autobiography as a transformative literary genre. Through a close reading of Omprakash Valmiki's *Joothan* and Bama's *Karukku*, this study reveals how life-writing serves as a powerful act of resistance and reclamation for marginalized communities. By disrupting social hierarchies and reimagining aesthetic norms, Dalit autobiographies carve out a vital space in literary traditions.

The theme of identity continues in a rich analysis of South Asian diaspora narratives, where food emerges as a profound site of cultural memory, connection, and resistance. This article beautifully illustrates how culinary practices weave together generations and geographies, deepening our understanding of identity in transnational contexts.

In a nod to the digital age, another piece traces the rise of blogging as a literary form in India, from its early roots in the 2000s to its current role in the digital landscape. By democratizing storytelling and fostering linguistic innovation, blogging has amplified marginalized voices and reshaped Indian literary culture, offering a fresh lens on creative expression. This issue also takes a historical turn, examining the influence of Western literature on Indian English writers from the colonial era to today's globalized world. Far from passive recipients, these writers have skillfully blended Western traditions with local sensibilities, crafting hybrid narratives that resonate with a distinctly Indian ethos. Finally, an evocative study of Amitav Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide* brings the ecological imagination to life, portraying nature as a shaping force in human stories. This reflection on humanity's intricate bond with the environment feels especially urgent in our Anthropocene moment, inviting readers to ponder our shared future.

Together, these articles capture the essence of IJELRS: a platform for bold, innovative, and interdisciplinary research that engages with the evolving questions of our time. As English studies continue to transform amid global and local currents, we hope this issue sparks meaningful dialogue, critical reflection, and continued scholarly curiosity.

Happy Reading!

Prof Neeru Tandon, D Litt

Editor-in chief

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