



Osmania University Centre for International Programmes

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OUCIP cordially invites you to online lecture series

OUCIP Lecture series #16

Topic: “The Contemporary Literary Art of Flash Fiction”

By

Prof Paritosh Chandra Dugar,

Former Principal & Head, Department of English Government Postgraduate College, KherwaraMohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur (Rajasthan)

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m

Day & Date: Tue 27th July 2021

About the Speaker:

Dr. Paritosh Chandra Dugar has taught English language and literature to undergraduate and postgraduate students for 38 years at various government colleges of Rajasthan. His main areas of interest are mysticism, rhetoric, ELT, and creative writing. Dr. Dugar is a recipient of Olive I. Reddick prize (Best Dissertation Award) of American Studies Research Centre (now OUCIP), Hyderabad. He has participated in various international conferences as a Plenary Speaker in India, Nepal, Thailand, and the Philippines. He has authored several books and published research papers in leading national and international journals. He has also contributed short stories and feature articles to the *Times of India*, an Indian English daily. He has been a subject expert at Rajasthan Public Service Commission and a textbook writer for Board of Secondary Education, Rajasthan. After his retirement as Principal of a government postgraduate college in Rajasthan, Dr. Dugar worked as Managing Editor of four research journals published by Pacific University, Udaipur. He is an internationally published writer of flash fiction and a winner in an international flash fiction writing competition. Recently, seven of his flash fictions stories have been included in the BA syllabus of the prestigious Sangameshwar Autonomous College of Solapur, Maharashtra.



About the Topic: “The Contemporary Literary Art of Flash Fiction”

Flash fiction is generally defined as a story of extreme brevity. It must contain all the components of a story but in a compressed and economical fashion. In fact, the term Flash Fiction was coined by James Thomas in 1992 to include stories up to 750 words. However, due to frequent configuration and mutation of this fictional genre, its word count now ranges from 50 words (sometimes even much less) to 1000 words. Various labels such as micro fiction, sudden fiction, postcard fiction, minute fiction, drabble, byte, ficlet, nano fiction, furious fiction, fast fiction, quick fiction, and the short-short story, Flash Fiction can be considered as a hybrid literary genre as it overlaps with poetry and fiction. It may fall into various sub-genres and styles of writing including horror, suspense, science fiction, fables, parables, ghost stories, epistles, mysteries, myths, romance, fairy tales, magical realism, futurism, surrealism, and historical fiction. Critics’ stigmatization of short works including flash fiction is often inspired by propositions like that of Aristotle that “beauty is a matter of size and order, and therefore impossible [...] in a minute creature” or by reservations like that of Edgar Allen Poe about the capability of “too

brief” works to move the “soul” of the reader or even have “any effect at all.” The purpose of the talk is to highlight the literary features of flash fiction such as character, plot, structure, narration, ambiguity, and figures of speech and to defend this popular fictional genre, which seems most suited to contemporary conditions, against stigmatization by demonstrating through examples how it offers enough space for character delineation, emotional resonance, and empathetic identification in spite of being too short in length and how it can work as an effective learning tool for students of language and literature as well as creative writers.

If you are willing to participate in the discussion, you are requested to fill in the registration form by paying the registration fee of rupees 100 with the account details provided in the registration link. Registered candidates can discuss the questions during the question hour of the session and the participation certificate will be provided to registered candidates.

The session will be live on “OUCIP” YouTube channel

- Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/5dtqznsGe5sY2eWR6>

**Regards Dr. Konda Nageswara Rao
Director, OUCIP
Osmania University, Hyderabad.**

