



Osmania University Center for International Programmes (OUCIP)

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OUCIP cordially invites you to online lecture series # 26

Topic: ' FROM LYING REPUBLICAN TO UNACKNOWLEDGED LEGISLATOR: THE POET AS A DARK HERO FROM ANTIQUITY TO MODERN PANDEMIC TIMES '

By

Debasish Lahiri

Poet and literary critic, L.B College, University of Calcutta.

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

Day & Date: Tue 23rd November 2021

About the Speaker: Debasish Lahiri works at Lal Baba College, under the University of Calcutta. His writings on Postcolonial theory, Indian, American, African & Australian Poetry, and European Modernism have been published in international journals and anthologies of criticism. He has delivered Keynote & Plenary Talks on Poetry at leading Universities in India. Abroad, he has been invited to speak at Manchester Metropolitan University; University of Paris Nanterre, University of Grenoble Alpes and University of Paris 13 among others. He has one collection of essays *Chiaroscuro Curfew: Essays in the Lives of Art* (2020), a co-edited book, *Literary Transactions in a Globalized Context* (2010), and one co-authored book, *Tragic Survivals: From the Hellenic to the Postmodern* (2017) to his credit. Lahiri is an internationally acclaimed poet. His poems have been widely published in journals like *The Journal of the Poetry Society of India*, *Muse-India*, *Indian Literature*, *Inkapture*, *The Poetry Salzburg Review*, *Mediterranean Poetry*, *Weber: The Contemporary West*, *Six Seasons Review*, *Byword*, *The Punch Magazine* and *The French Literary Review* among others; in French translation in *Siècle 21*, *Europe*, *Recours au Poème* & *La Traductière*; and in Portuguese in *NERVO: Colectivo de Poesia*.



His four books of poetry are: *First Will & Testament* (Writers Workshop, 2012), *No Waiting like Departure* (Authors Press, 2016) which was shortlisted as one of the five best collections of that year by Scroll & India Today, *Tinder Tender: Poems of Love & Loitering* (Authors Press, 2018) and *Poppies in the Post & Other Poems* (Authors Press, 2020). *Paysages sans Verbes (Landscape Without Verbs)*, a French translation of his selected poetry was published in May, 2021 from Editions Apic, (Algiers/Paris). *Legion of Lost Letters*, a collection of narrative poems on common lives in Roman Britain is due to be published in 2022 from Black Spring Press, UK. Lahiri is currently on the editorial board of *Gitanjali & Beyond* (Scottish Centre for Tagore Studies). He is a reviewer and regular contributor to the 'Life & Letters' column of *The Statesman* newspaper. Lahiri's essay on the pandemic in Kolkata appeared in the *L'Obs* magazine on 27th July 2021.

Lahiri is the recipient of the *Prix-du Merite*, Naji Naaman Literary Prize 2019. He is an honorary member of Maison Naaman pour la Culture.

About the Topic: "FROM LYING REPUBLICAN TO UNACKNOWLEDGED LEGISLATOR: THE POET AS A DARK HERO FROM ANTIQUITY TO MODERN PANDEMIC TIMES"

The Poet has always been an Interdict. While outlaws as a norm gun for gold and riches, a poet steals hearts and minds. One of the most difficult artistic forms to truly control and monopolize politically and socially, Poetry and its practitioners have been unsung heroes: always suspect, always slighted, always questioned, always threatened, always the dark ones. Heroes are needed to fix out-of-joint times. Poets have to look beyond their happy family circle, the beautiful flower garden and the satiety of official recognition. Poets look into nightmares, tears, the silent gasp of a broken heart, the scream of madness, not their own, but the world's. So with the pall of another difficult time upon us we need to ponder, does anyone want to be a hero? Does anyone want to be a poet?

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/YwYB7jQu8TmA8suT9>



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