

Invitation

Guest Lecture

By

Dr. T. Vijay Kumar

TOPIC: Importance of
Basic Sciences
And
Humanities in Technical
Education

VENUE: Room No: 3212, II Floor, Block III

DATE: 4 JULY 2019

TIME: 11:00 AM

Gokaraju Rangaraju Institute of Engineering and Technology
(Autonomous)



Dr Vijay Kumar Tadakamalla is Professor and currently Head, Department of English, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India. He was also the Joint Director of Osmania University Centre for International Programmes (OUCIP; formerly American Studies Research Center, ASRC) from Oct 2008-Feb 2012.

He has an MA in English and MPhil (on Indian Writing in English) from the University of Hyderabad, and his PhD (on Postcolonial African Fiction) is from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi.

He has presented papers at several international conferences including at Oxford University, Australian National University, University of Malta, University British Columbia (Canada), University of Cyprus, and the University of Central Lancashire (UK).

In 2016, he was an invited plenary speaker at Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt, Germany. In 2015, he was invited by the Goethe-Institut, Berlin for a literary tour of Germany and participation in the "Leipzig Book Fair". In 2014, he was an invited speaker at Brown University (USA); University of London, UK; and the National University of Ireland. In Fall 2013, as Exchange Professor, he designed and taught a semester course on the Indian Novel in English at The University of Utah. In 2011, he was nominated by the US Embassy to the annual conference of the British Association for American Studies (BAAS) at the University of Central Lancashire. Also in 2011, he was a Visiting Scholar at Kansas State University, Georgetown University, and Shenandoah Universities. He was a British Council Fellow at the Oxford Seminar (2000) and Charles Wallace Fellow; Treasurer of International ACLALS (Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies; 2001-2004), and its Indian branch (IACLALS; 1999-2005).

His research interests include postcolonial literatures, the Indian literary diaspora, translation, and educational television. He publishes mostly on postcolonial literatures, particularly Indian and African fiction, and has interviewed several writers (Salman Rushdie, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Shashi Deshpande, Romesh Gunasekara, Arvind Krishna Mehrotra, Amitav Ghosh, and Meena Alexander among them) for print and electronic media.

His publications include critical studies: *English and Other International Languages* (PLSI Vol 37) (ed; 2018), *Globalisation: Australian-Asian Perspectives* (co-ed; 2014), *Focus India: Postcolonial Narratives of the Nation* (co-ed; 2007); and translations: *The Liberation of Sita* (co-trans; 2016, 2018) by Volga and *Kanyasulkam* (co-trans; 2002), an early 20th century Telugu classic by Gurajada Venkata Appa Rao.

In 2016, he was guest co-editor of two special issues of the American journal *Weber: the Contemporary West* on "South Asia" and "Global Voices". He is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the international book series on "Transnational Cultures" (Peter Lang), *Zeitschrift für Anglistik und Amerikanistik* (Journal of English and American Studies, ZAA), and *Indialogs: Spanish Journal of India Studies*.

He makes language and literature-related programmes for radio and television and is associated with award-winning documentaries. He is a TEDx speaker, one of the founder editors of *Muse India: the Literary e-Journal*, and a director of the annual Hyderabad Literary Festival. He can be reached at <ouenglish2016@gmail.com> or <tvk2k15@gmail.com>.



Guest Lecture Report

Importance of Basic Sciences & Humanities in Technical Education

A Guest lecture By

Dr.T. Vijay Kumar

Professor,HOD&Tedx speaker,OU

Hyderabad

4 July 2019

Basic Sciences and humanities develop integrated learning and holistic attitude. Recent AICTE curriculum and National education policy aimed to integrate learning context. AICTE gives only model and curriculum but never prescribes and evaluated. The universities should play vital role in framing the syllabi. But very often in our system of hierarchy of knowledge is found. If the person is a doctor, s/w engineer is valued very much. Mad rush towards Engineering and Medical streams is seen. But there are proposals to close single discipline universities, so basic sciences course are to be introduced again. Technical institutes give less importance to BS and Humanities, scholars are not revered in the same manner as a technical scholar.

Dr.T. Vijay Kumar pointed another problem like comparing Applied Sciences & Basic Sciences and Applied Sciences are given importance and Basic Sciences are completely neglected. But he pointed that great discoveries and contribution in science are done in Basic Sciences. C V Raman in physics & Ramanjan in Mathematics. In Literature, India won the first Nobel Prize for Gitanjali by Rabindranath Tagore.

He compared the importance of Production Economy citing the downfall of Philippines's service economy. He cautioned the farmers who depend on commercial crops leaving essential crops like rice, jawar illustrating the instance of price drop of COCO & Oil as prices are not in the hands of the country which produces it.

AICTE syllabus mad rush to technology national educational policy says all single discipline institutes will be closed. He highlighted the drawbacks of merging all medical colleges under Health university and all engineering colleges under Technological University like JNTU.

He stated the of example of the prestigious MIT where best research come from humanities. Reputed John Hopkins medical university also have humanities and philosophy courses. In IIT kargpur economics is introduced as tokenising but all higher educational institutions must be multidisciplinary. Education institutions should be multi-disciplinary. Our ancient culture consist of 64 kalas or skills including all streams.

The Vision and mission statements are rarely used.







