

# KAKATIYA GOVERNMENT COLLEGE

## HANUMAKONDA

Name : Dr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju  
Designation : Asst. Professor of English  
Year of Award of Ph.D. :  
Name of the University : Kakatiya University, Warangal.  
Year of entering into Govt. Service : 17/02/1990

S. No.	Details of copies of Certificates	Remarks
1	Copy of Ph.D Certificate	✓ Submitted
2	Press note	✓ Submitted
3	Research work dates of seminars and Pre-Ph.D Date of joining in this college	2006-2007 → 2011-12 24/08/10 Seminars 08/10/10 ✓ 01/09/2023 (Date of Joining) at KGC/HK
4	Details of Ph.D Admission-part time or full time	✓ Part-time
5	Copies of RDC Approval letters of Ph.D	✓ Submitted
6	Name of guide/supervisors with mobile number, email id	Prof. J. Yellaiah 98495 39441 jyellaiah@yahoo.com
7	Copies of guide allotment letter	✓ Submitted
8	No. of increments sanctioned for Ph.D.	✓ Five Submitted
9	Published Research article-copies.	✓ Submitted
10	Original Ph.D Thesis.- Book.	Submitted (Available in the office)



Signature

Name & Designation

(Dr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju)  
Asst. Prof. of English  
Kakatiya Govt. College.  
Hanamakonda.



PRINCIPAL  
KAKATIYA GOVT. COLLEGE  
Hanamakonda.

Sl. No. ■■■■■■



158964

2014

# Kakatiya University



Faculty of Arts

This is to certify that E. Ram Bhaskar Raju  
son/daughter of Satyannarayana Raju having pursued a  
course of study prescribed by this University and having  
passed the requisite examination by thesis, has been admitted  
to the degree of

**Doctor of Philosophy**  
in English

The title of the thesis is:

*HISTORY, POLITICS AND THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE  
NOVELS OF AMITAV GHOSH*

The candidate has been declared qualified for the award  
of the Degree of Ph.D. on 03/11/2011.

Given under the seal of the University

Warangal, A.P., India

Date: 12 May 2014

*E. Ram Bhaskar Raju*

*B. S. Rao*  
Vice-Chancellor

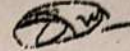
No. 1692/E1/KUW/2011

Date: 03-11-2011.

**PRESS NOTE**

Mr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju, Research Scholar in English, Kakatiya University, Warangal who, has presented a thesis for the Degree of Ph.D. in English entitled "HISTORY, POLITICS AND THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE NOVELS OF AMITAV GHOSH" declared qualified for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) of the Kakatiya University.

"By Order"



**CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS**

**Copy forwarded for information to:**

1. The Registrar, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
2. The Secretary, University Grants Commission, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 110 002.
3. The Editor, University News, Association of Indian Universities, 16 Kotla Marg, New Delhi - 110 002.
4. The Dean, Faculty of Arts, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
5. The Co-ordinating Officer, U.G.C. Unit, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
6. The Principal, University College, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
7. The Chairman, Board of Studies in English, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
8. The Head, Department of English, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
9. The EXAMINER.
10. Prof. J. Yellaiiah (Supervisor), Retired Professor of English, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
11. The Nodal Officer, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
12. The Member-in-charge, University Library, Warangal.
13. The Joint Registrar (Admn.), Kakatiya University, Warangal.
14. The Deputy Registrar (Admn/Accounts/Academic), Kakatiya University, Warangal.
15. The Public Relations Officer, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
16. The Secretary to Vice-Chancellor, Kakatiya University, Warangal.
17. The Sections E5 & E6, Examination Branch, Kakatiya University, Warangal
18. The Person Concerned (Mr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju, S/o Satyanarayana Raju)

\*\*\*

(2055)

(N.S)



## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that **Mr. E.Ram Bhaskar Raju**, Research Scholar of Department of English, presented the following paper in **PERSPECTIVES**, a scholars' seminar organized by the Department of English, University College, Kakatiya University, Warangal, on **August 24, 2010**.

Title of the Paper: **History, Politics and the Individual in the Novels of Amitav Ghosh** (as Research Methodology Paper Presentation)

*[Handwritten signature]*  
30/8/11  
**HEAD**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY  
WARANGAL-506 009 (A. P)



## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that **Mr. E.Ram Bhaskar Raju**, Research Scholar of Department of English, presented the following paper in **PERSPECTIVES**, a scholars' seminar organized by the Department of English, University College, Kakatiya University, Warangal, on **October 8, 2010**.

Title of the Paper: **History, Politics and the Individual in the Novels of Amitav Ghosh** (as Pre-submission Paper Presentation)

  
HEAD  
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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY  
WARANGAL.506 009 (A, P)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGIONAL JOINT DIRECTOR OF INTERMEDIATE  
EDUCATION

Rc. No.421/422/C1/2008

Dated:- 05-01-2008

Sub:- APIES:- Permission is accorded to the Junior Lecturers working in Govt. Junior College's in zone to do Ph. D /M. Phil ( On part time basis)- Orders- Issued.

- Ref:-
- 1) Lr. Rc. No. 523/2007 Dt. 27-02-07 of the Principal, GJC Veenavanka Karimnagar Dist.
  - 2) Lr. Rc. No. 475/B1/07, Dt.31-03-2007 of the Principal, GJC Huzurabad Karimnagar Dist.
  - 3) Lr. Rc. No. 106/JC/06-07, Dt. 20-03-07 of the Principal, GJC Jangaon Warangal. Dist.
  - 4) Lr. Rc. No. Spl/2007 Dt. 12-05-07 of the Principal, GJC Dhermasagar Warangal. Dist
  - 5) Rc. No.103//Estt/07 Dt. 16-10-07 of the Principal GJC Thorrur Warangal Dist
  - 6) Lr. Rc. No. A/M.Phil/757//07, Dt. 27-12-07 of the Principal GJC Bayyaram Khammam. Dist.
  - 7) Lr. Rc. No. 787/2007 Dt. 01-01-08 of the Principal, GJC Parkal Warangal. Dist.
  - 8) Lr. Rc. No. Nil Dt. 29-09-07 of the Principal GJC (B) Karimnagar Karimnagar Dist.

-0-0-

Permission is hereby accorded to the following Junior Lecturers working in Govt. Junior Colleges in Zone V to do M. Phil/Ph.D ( On part time basis) from OU/KU/ SDLCE KU Warangal subject to the following conditions

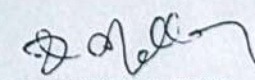
Sl.No.	Name of the JL & Place of working	Subject	Name of the University in which Ph.D./ M. Phil to do
1	K. Linga Reddy JL Commerce GJC Veenavanka	M.Phil	SDLCE KUC Warangal.
2	N.Sammaiah, JL Economics GJC Huzurabad	Ph.D.	KUC Warangal
3	T. Shyam Krishna JL in English GJC Jangaon	Ph.D.	KUC Warangal
4	Ch.Sudhakar JL in Chemistry GJC Thorrur	Ph.D.	KUC Warangal
5	Md. Mustasin Ali JL in English GJC Bayyaram	M.Phil	Vinayaka Mission University Selem
6	E. Ram Bhaskar Raju, JL in English GJC Dhermasagar	Ph.D.	KUC Warangal.
7	Ch. Snehalatha Reddy JL in Physics GJC Parkal	Ph.D	KUC Warangal
8	K.Sudhakar JL in Botany gJC(B) Karimnagar	Ph.D	KUC Warangal

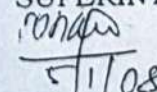
- 1) That there should not be any financial commitment to the Government
- 2) That his research work should not be in any way detrimental to his to Duties.
- 3) That he should not accept any financial Assistance from any source .
- 4) That he should under take the Research work at his own cost.
- 5) That he should under take the Research work only after he is selected for the course.
- 6) That this permission shall not be made a ground for either transfer or retention in future.

G.BALAKISHAN  
REGIONAL JOINT DIRECTOR.

To  
The individual concerned ( through Principal)  
Copy to the Principal's concerned

// t. c. f. b. o. //

  
SUPERINTENDENT.

  
5/1/08



**OFFICE OF THE DEAN, FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY, WARANGAL – 506 009**

No.126/DFA/KU/WGL/2007

Date: 05-06-2007.

**ORDERS**

**Sub: FACULTY OF ARTS – PH.D. ADMISSIONS IN ENGLISH 2006-2007.**

**Ref:** (i) Note File No.125/DFA/KU/2007 dated.02-06-2007.  
(ii) Note File No.107/DFA/KU/2007 dated07-05-2007.  
(iii) Ph. D. Admission Notification No.977/B3/KU/2006, dated 26-10-2006.

On the recommendations of the Admission Committee and with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor, Kakatiya University, Warangal, the following candidates have been provisionally selected for admission into Ph. D. programme – 2006-2007 (Department of English) as mentioned below:

Sl. No	Name of the Candidate	Topic of Research	Name of the Supervisor	Remarks
01	Mr. P. Dasharatham	<b>Communicative Approach to the Teaching of Vocabulary to the Students of Professional Courses in Colleges under JNTU: A Study</b>	Dr. V. Srinivas	<i>Required to Qualify in Pre-Ph. D.</i>
02	Mr. K. Dayakar	<b>Human Relationships in the Fiction of Flannery O'Connor : A Critical Study</b>	Dr. P. Shailaja	--
03	Ms. P. Sharadha	<b>Re-presentation of History and Politics in the Select Novels of Salman Rushdie, Shashi Tharoor and Vikram Seth</b>	Dr. V. Srinivas	--
04	Ms. G. Anuradha	<b>Wounded Black Psyche : A Study of Toni Morrison's Novels</b>	Dr. V. Srinivas	--
05	Mr. T. Sharath Babu	<b>Problems of Teaching and Learning in Social Welfare Residential Institutions in Telangana : A Study</b>	Prof. G. Damodar	<i>Required to Qualify in Pre-Ph. D.</i>
06	Mr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju	<b>History, Politics and the Individual in the Novels of Amitav Ghosh</b>	Prof. J. Yellaiah	--
07	Ms. G. Manjulatha Devi	<b>Development of Reading Comprehension Skills at Plus Two Level : A Study</b>	Prof. G. Damodar	--
08	Mr. A .Sheshachalam	<b>The Image of "New Woman" in the Recent Indian English Women Novelists : A Select Study</b>	Prof. M. Rajagopala chary	<i>Required to Qualify in Pre-Ph. D.</i>
09	Ms. M. Shobha Rani	<b>Teaching of Prose in Degree Colleges Under KU</b>	Dr. K. Kumar	--
10	Mr. K. Ram Mohan	<b>The Theme of Struggle in the Select Novels of Nadine Gordimer</b>	Dr. M. Prabhakar	--
11	Mr. M. Venkat Reddy	<b>English Curriculum Reforms at Tertiary Level in AP : A Case Study</b>	Dr. K.Purushotham	--
12	Mr. B. Srinivas	<b>Magic Realism in Recent Indian English Fiction : A Select Study</b>	Dr. V. Srinivas	<i>Required to Qualify in Pre-Ph. D.</i>
13	Mr. M. Koteswar Rao	<b>Dalit Autobiographies in English Translation : A Select Study</b>	Dr. K. Purushotham	<i>Required to Qualify in Pre-Ph. D.</i>

(P.T.O)

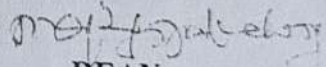
The above candidates are required to submit the following certificates in original to the Principal of the College concerned for verification and finalization of admissions into the Ph.D. Programme:

- 01 Post-Graduate / M. Phil. Degree Certificate.
- 02 Transfer Certificate
- 03 No Objection Certificate from the Employer (applicable to the employees)
- 04 Migration Certificate (candidates who possess PG / M. Phil. from other than Kakatiya University)
- 05 Admission fee (Rs.100/-) and Tuition fee (@ Rs.750=00) per annum paid in "A" Challan and Non University fee (Rs.200/-) per annum paid in "D" Challan at **SBH, KU Branch, Warangal** on or before 30-06-2007 as per the norms in respect of University departments.
- 06 Admission fee in "A" Challan and Non University fee in "D" Challan have to be paid at **SBH, KU Branch, Warangal** as per the norms in respect of Affiliated college admissions and tuition fee as prescribed either in Challan of the college or through Demand Draft may be paid at the college concerned.

• After getting verification of the above they have to submit their joining report duly endorsed by the Supervisor, Head of the Department to the Principal of the College where the department exists, under intimation to the undersigned on or before 30-06-2007, failing which their registration will be cancelled.

**The above admissions are subject to the following conditions:**

- 01 They have to complete the programme within a minimum period of 2/3 years and maximum of four/five years from the date of registration for full time/part time scholars respectively.
- 02 They have to renew their admission through proper channel by paying the Tuition/Non University fee every year as per the norms at the office of the Principal of the college concerned.
- 03 They should give a minimum of two (2) Seminars during their programme.
- 04 They should publish at least one paper in a reputed/recognized journal, before submission of thesis.
- 05 They should submit half yearly reports of the Research work through the Supervisor and Head of the Department to the undersigned.
- 06 The candidates other than M. Phil holders should pass Pre-Ph. D. examinations within two successive examinations from the date of registration.
- 07 The candidates in service outside Warangal are required to put in at least one year of attendance in the department.
- 08 They shall be governed by the existing rules and regulations of the programme.
- 09 Any deviations in observing the above rules by the candidates entail cancellation of their admission.

  
DEAN

To

**Mr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju**

Copy to:-

- 01 The Principal, University College, KU.
- 02 The Head, Department of English, KU.
- 03 The Chairperson, Board of Studies in English, KU.
- 04 The Supervisors concerned.
- 05 The Controller of Examinations, KU.
- 06 The Member-in-Charge, University Library, KU.
- 07 The Deputy Registrar, Academic Branch, KU.
- 08 The Secretary to Vice-Chancellor, KU.
- 09 The SF.



LOCAL ENTRANCE  
 OF P. I. C. C. COLLEGE, KANNUR UNIVERSITY  
 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, KANNUR UNIVERSITY  
 ANNUNCIATION, 2025-2026

STATEMENT SHOWING THE LIST OF SCHOLARS ADMITTED TO PH.D. PROGRAMME  
 GUIDE NAME

Sl. No.	Name of the Scholar	English	Guide Name
1	A. G. PILLAIKUNN	DR. V. SRINIVAS	DR. P. SHALLOJA
2	E. K. DAVANUR	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
3	P. SHANMUGA	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
4	A. G. PILLAIKUNN	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
5	E. RAM KRISHNAN RAJU	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
6	G. U. MANJUNATHAN DEVI	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
7	A. SIVAKRISHNAN	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
8	N. SHOBHA RANI	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
9	K. RAM KISHAN	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
10	M. VENKAT REDDY	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
11	D. SRINIVAS	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
12	M. KOTESWARAN RAO	DR. V. SRINIVAS	
13	T. RAJAPATI KALIDASA	DR. V. SRINIVAS	

RECOMMENDATION OF HISTORY AND  
 POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT  
 COLLEGE UNDER JNTU N. STUDY  
 OF PLANNING OF COMMON & A CRITICAL  
 STUDY

THE TITLES OF STUDIES IN THE SUBJECT  
 ENGLISH CURRICULUM REVISION AT  
 TERTIARY LEVEL IN N.E. & C.S. STUDY  
 MODIC REGALISM IN RECENT INDIAN  
 ENGLISH FICTION: A SELECT STUDY  
 DR. J. ANUBHAVANANDA IN CHARGE  
 OF THE DEPARTMENT  
 OF ENGLISH  
 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
 KANNUR UNIVERSITY  
 KANNUR

*[Signature]*  
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 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
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 KANNUR



PROCEEDINGS OF THE PRINCIPAL GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE PEDDAPALLI,  
DISTRICT KARIMNAGAR, TELANGANA.

Present: Dr. P. RAJALINGAM M.Com., M.Phil., Ph.D.  
Principal

Rc.No: Spl/Estt./Increments/2016

Date: 16/06/2016

**Sub:** TSCES-UGC Scales 2006- Sanction of Non-Compoundable Incentive Increments for the Ph.D. Degree in the relevant subject at the entry level in respect of Dr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju, Lecturer in English – Govt. Degree College, Peddapalli, Dist. Karimnagar –orders – issued.

- Ref: 1) G.O. Ms. No. 14HE (UE II) Dept. Dated: 20/02/2010  
2) CCE, Hyderabad Proc. Rc. No 651/UGC PF3/2011 Dated: 15/07/2011  
3) CCE, Hyderabad Proc. Rc. No 220/UGC-PF3/2012 Dated: 07/06/2013  
4) CCE, Hyderabad Proc. Rc.No. 1150/Ser.II.2/2013-31, Dated 20/05/2013  
5) CCE, Hyderabad Proc. Rc. No. 302/UGC.PF/2016-1, Dated 14/06/2016  
6) Individual application of Dr.E. Ram Bhaskar Raju, Lecturer in English, G.D.C. Peddapalli, dated 15/06/2016.

@@@

Consequent upon the subject and reference (4) cited above, Dr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju has joined the post of Lecturer in English at Govt. Degree College, Peddapalli, Dist. Karimnagar on 21/05/2013 Fore Noon by transfer by promotion accordingly. As per the reference (5) cited, the incumbent's pay has been fixed at Rs. 27730 + 6,000 A.G.P. in the Pay Band of 15,600 – 39,100 duly converting from State R.P.S. 2010 to U.G.C. R.P.S. 2006 with effect from 21/05/2016.

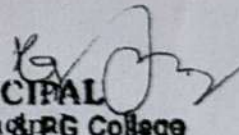
As such, vide Reference (6) the incumbent submitted his individual application for the sanction of Non-Compoundable Incentive Increments for his Ph.D. Degree in the relevant subject at the entry level as on 21/05/2013. The incumbent is eligible to claim the sanction of five (5) non-compoundable incentive increments for his Ph.D. Degree at the entry level vide References (1,2 and 3) shown above in the U.G.C. Pay Scale of R.P.S. 2006 accordingly.

Hence, the incumbent is sanctioned five (5) non-compoundable incentive increments for his Ph.D. Degree in the relevant subject with effect from 21/05/2013 through these proceedings as shown below.

Contd..2

Detail	Fixation
Pay Fixed as on 21/05/2013 in the Pay Band of Rs. 15,600-39,1000 + 6000 A.G.P. as per the Proc. of CCE, Telangana, Hyderabad and of Principal, GDC, Peddapalli Dist. Karimnagar vide Rc.Nos. as shown above respectively.	Rs. 33,730/- [Rs.27,730 + Rs. 6,000 A.G.P.]
Rate of Increment (3% of Pay + A.G. P. rounded off) Rs. 33,730 X 3% = Rs. 1,020 for Sanction of Five (5) Advance Incentive Increments (non-compounded) from 21/05/2013 for his Ph.D. Degree in the relevant subject at the entry level.	Rs. 1,020/- [Rs. 1,020 X 5 = Rs. 5,100/-]
Pay, after merging of Five (5) Advance Incentive Increments (non-compounded) for the Ph.D. Degree from 21/05/2013	Rs. 33,730 + Rs.5,100 = Rs. 38,830/-

If this fixation is found erroneous in future and any excess amount paid will be recovered in one lump sum without notice to the incumbent. Necessary entries have been made in the Service Register of the incumbent accordingly.

  
**PRINCIPAL**  
Govt. Degree & PG College  
Peddapalli.

Copy to:

- 1) Individual lecturers concerned.
- 2) Personal file of individual lecturers.
- 3) Office of GDC Peddapalli. Dist. Karimnagar
- 4) Office of STO Peddapalli. Dist. Karimnagar
- 5) Office of RJD, Collegiate Education, Warangal.
- 6) Office of CCE Hyderabad, Telangana.

ISSN 0976-3686

**Contemporary Discourse**  
A Peer Reviewed International Journal

VOLUME-2 - ISSUE-2 - JUNE-2011



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# Contemporary Discourse

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ISSN 0976-3686

# Contemporary Discourse

## A Peer Reviewed International Journal

VOLUME-2 • ISSUE-2 • JULY-2011

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U. Sreerelka
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Kafeel Ahmed Choudhury
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## The Calcutta Chromosome in the Backdrop of Indian Diaspora

E. RAM BHASKAR RAJU

One can easily notice a remarkable change in contemporary discourses on Indian English novel. Now issues like postcolonialism, multiculturalism, indigenization nativism, the social and political agenda of criticism and the like are being treated with great importance in preference to a variety of relatively inconsequential issues. By and large, the Indian English novelist has attempted to face the reality around him with greater courage and responsibility.

Located in the metropolitan West they tend to recreate the contemporary social milieu and cultural crisis in their native land and attempt to redefine it in the emerging post-colonial context. They mix the past, the present and the future and the imperial and the colonial cultures in their fiction, dislocating time and subverting the imperial purpose in the process. Received history is tampered with, rewritten and realigned from the point of view of the victims of its deconstructive progress. They explore and expose the residual effects of foreign domination in the political, social, scientific and economic spheres, which affect the individual in particular.

The well known term postcolonial literature stands for the literature of the colonized people and nation during and after the end of colonialism. Postcolonial writers entwine various disciplines such as science, history, sociology, politics, philosophy, psychology, literature into one piece of writing. These writers disclaim the institutionalized version of history. They interrogate, evaluate and analyze whatever is laid before them because history is written by those, who were in power and dominance, from their point of view. Through their writings they try to present the other possibilities inherent in it.

Amitav Ghosh belongs to the literary tradition that was fostered and nourished by Rushdie, Shashi Tharoor and others. Like many of his contemporaries he has been immensely influenced by the political and cultural milieu of post-independent India. In *The Calcutta Chromosome* (1996) the two worlds of science and counter-science, European rationality and Indian myths are brought together against the backdrop of Calcutta's streets, markets and monuments. Displacement has been a central process in his fictional writings, departures and arrivals have a permanent symbolic relevance in his narrative structure. "Post-colonial allegories are concerned with neither redeeming nor annihilating history, but with displacing it as a concept and

## The Calcutta Chromosome...

opening up the past to imaginative revision" (Sleman 165).

In the novel *The Calcutta Chromosome*, Ghosh has extensively dealt with the occurrence of history and knits the plot of the story around it. Along with history the novel looks deep into sociology, philosophy, literature, psychology, politics and above all science. The novel could be referred to as science-fiction as it is based upon Ronald Ross' discovery of malaria parasite. At the surface level it appears that the novel is a story narrating discovery of the malaria parasite but at the deeper level it is the story of transmigration of soul.

The novel subtitled as 'A Novel of Fevers, Delirium and Discovery' deals with medical history, computer applications, religious cults set against the background of the closing years of the nineteenth and the twentieth century, and the early years of twenty first century India, America, Britain and Egypt. Ghosh narrates this medical thriller pregnant with full of mysteries and myths by incorporating certain specific techniques which brings a qualitative change to the present era of literature. His manipulation of narrative techniques could be well analyzed through the characters and incidents of the novel. Ghosh presents the contrast of science and counter-science through the characters and plot of the novel. His intention in the novel is to dismantle the western sense and superiority through Indian Philosophy. He tries to establish the authority and control of marginalized lower class Indian people over Western higher class scientists.

The novel opens in the twenty first century with Antar an Egyptian computer programmer and system analyst in New York working on his super computer to search for a person whose battered ID card is found. He discovers that the lost person is L. Murugan, a colleague and researcher in Life Watch where he works, and is also the one who has done extensive research on the medical history of malaria. He came to an inference that Ronald Ross who was awarded Nobel Prize in 1906 for his work on the life-cycle of malaria parasite (1898) was heading in the wrong direction and was motivated out of the maze by some people onto the correct path. Lutchman, a 'dhooly bearer' entered in Ross' life and experiment, and planted seed in his mind that a particular species of mosquito might be the malaria vector and supplied him with samples of anopheles mosquito. Some days later Ross succeeded in his research, as he saw in the stomach sack of Anopheles Stephensii, the placement of plasmodium zygotes. Like L. Murugan, the group of counter-scientists who are both at the centre of the novel and at the centre of malaria research and discovery operate and exert their control from the margins of society and scientific discourse. The woman in charge, Mangala, is characterized by the colonial scientists as deviating from the psychological norms: "Don't pay her any attention," Cunningham said to Farley, with a wink, 'she's a little touched ... you know' (141).

Likewise, the work she is overseeing is often set up in binary

fantastical realism, fantasy, magic, supernaturalism, myths and folklore but also with new cinematic narrative techniques to accomplish his purpose of shocking the readers so as to ascertain the superiority of marginalized groups over the western central associations. These techniques increase credibility to the text and reduce the distance between reader/spectator and text/screen by the use of recurring images and motifs. The realization of aural reception subtles and accentuates the feeling of visibility by the use of strongly visual images.

A master in handling the language, Ghosh makes transitions either smoothly and abruptly or expectedly and unexpectedly through a metaphorical device. Phulboni's mysterious experience with the phantom train in Renupur is the distinctive illustration of metaphorical device which represents fear of death and mystery. Ghosh has emphatically depicted the myths of transcendence of nature inherent in Indian philosophy through varied narrative techniques of the twentieth century bringing a qualitative change to this era. Ghosh dismantles the western rational notion through Indian irrationality presenting an alternative perspective of truth.

*The Calcutta Chromosome* is almost as if Ghosh is exorcising the gloom, which had crept upon him in the writing of *In an Antique Land*. In both the works, the chance discovery of marginal figures, lost in time, becomes the occasion for researching the historical past of ancient civilizations with their richness and complexities and also for tracing their inevitable destruction at the hands of the European conquerors.

In the end, the novel is perhaps more post-colonial than the publicity surrounding it gives it credit for. *The Calcutta Chromosome's* greatest strength lies in its success at blending the post-colonial with science fiction traditions. Placed as they are in the science-fiction framework Ghosh sets up, the familiar post-colonial tropes of borders and resistance become unfamiliar and beg a closer examination. Ultimately, the novel forces readers to abandon their pre-conceived notions about our arbitrary classifications of literature. There is no reason a post-colonial novel cannot employ science-fiction tropes or vice-versa. Success, as we can see in *The Calcutta Chromosome*, lies in being able to successfully exploit a given genre's or tradition's strengths and themes to best suit one's ultimate objectives.

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# RESEARCH DROPS

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of the knowledge that has been imposed by the West on its former colonies, without reproducing its claims to universal applicability?

'Silence' is a recurrent theme in the novel, originating from the often-stated premise that to say something is to change it. Huttunen notes that the workings of the Indian scientific/mystical movement uncovered by Murugan "constitutes a counter-science to Western scientific discourse" (25). The tenets of the group contain aspects of the Hindu belief in the transmigration of souls as well as of contemporary scientific ideas about genetics and cloning (Huttunen 27). Its native Indian members operate through means kept secret from the more Westernized characters and from the reader, and their activities become progressively clearer as the novel continues until their plan is revealed to the reader. Huttunen explains that the methodology of this group is based on the ideas of Emmanuel Levinas about communication by way of silence.

In Levinas' view, "the other exists outside the traditional ontology of Western philosophy which conceives of all being as objects that can be internalized by consciousness or grasped by adequate representation ... Consequently 'silence' in this novel represents the kind of unattainable experience that transcends the level of language, or knowing" (30-31). It is this enigma that the novel leaves behind as an abiding theme. The reader is forced to keep thinking about it much after turning the last page. The mystery at the heart of the story is never completely resolved by the author, leaving much to the reader's understanding and interpretation.

The alternative history that the novel proposes and its re-working of the 'official' metanarrative is also a common theme in post-colonial literatures. By re-interpreting historical fragments the novel is able to undermine the authority of colonial narratives. Not only does the novel present the official history of malaria research as an elaborate facade, but, even more radically, it also suggests that this facade was constructed by the colonized that used the colonizers as unwitting pawns in their scheme. Furthermore, in deconstructing one history and constructing another, Ghosh, like a number of other post-colonial writers, disrupts the conventional binary between the centre and the margin. The 'marginal' and the 'variant' characterize post-colonial views of language and society as a consequence of the process of abrogation. The syncretic is validated by the disappearance of the 'centre', and with no 'centre' the marginal becomes the formative constituent of reality.

Through the characters and plot of the novel, Ghosh presents the contrast of science and counter-science. His intention in the novel is to dismantle the western sense and superiority through Indian Philology. He tries to establish the authority and control of marginalized lower

## The 'Margin' for the 'Centre' through 'Silence' in 'The Calcutta Chromosome'

E. Ram Bhaskar Raju

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- Silence, unmoved and rising,*
- Silence, unmoved and sheltering,*
- Silence, unmoved and permanent,*
- Silence, unmoved and brilliant,*
- Silence, broad and immense like the Ganges,*
- Silence, unmoved and increasing,*
- Silence, white and shining like the Moon,*
- Silence, the Essence of God, the Almighty.*

In The Calcutta Chromosome, the reader explores the border between official science and non-science. A significant character Murugan says that Mangala discovered the malaria vector faster than European scientists because she was not hindered by a structured knowledge. Could it be a sort of metaphor for fiction? The one which knows most in the novel is Silence! Amitav Ghosh's The Calcutta Chromosome is vested with history, malaria, colonized India with Indians and the in-depth study being dealt with science, real technology that truly makes it a novel of fevers, delirium and discovery. It suggests that the contemporary world can be best understood through the objective correlative of bizarre incidents and unexpected turn of events.

The two worlds of science and counter-science, European rationality and Indian myths are brought together against the backdrop of Calcutta's streets and monuments. The Calcutta Chromosome documents a series of interrelated moments wherein each character feverishly attempts to reach the core of his quest, his mission. While Antar, the Egyptian computer clerk struggles to trace the adventures and disappearance of L. Murugan, the latter's search is centered around the missing links of malaria research conducted by Ross between 1895-99 and Ross becomes a symbol of scientific research that happily culminates in a discovery. Beneath the novel's multiple layers of narrative lies a debate about knowledge and power relations. "Knowledge [can] begin without acknowledging the impossibility of knowledge," is taken from a pivotal, if paradoxical speech by Murugan, and wittily encapsulates one of Ghosh's most compelling dilemmas as a writer. How can one challenge the totalizing impetus

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**HISTORY, POLITICS AND THE INDIVIDUAL  
IN THE NOVELS OF AMITAV GHOSH**

**THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY  
FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF  
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