



Lecture Series
on
UNDERSTANDING LITERATURE
Organized by
Department of English
Govt. Johnson College
Aizawl, Mizoram

Literature entertains and educates us. Literature most commonly refers to works of the creative imagination, including poetry, drama, fiction, nonfiction, and in some instances, journalism, and song. Literature is more than just a historical or cultural artifact; it can serve as an introduction to a new world of experience. Literature is the source and guardian of the vitality of the language, and as an important means of extending one's own experience. Works of literature, at their best, provide a kind of blueprint of human society. From the writings of ancient civilizations such as Egypt and China to Greek philosophy and poetry, from the epics of Homer to the plays of William Shakespeare, from Charlotte Bronte to Virginia Woolf, Joseph Conrad, William Golding and Alice Walker, works of literature give insight and context to all the world's societies. One of the vital steps towards understanding literature is to have background knowledge and to interact with the story.

Literature is a social act and that it presents more than one possible meaning. Authors of fiction, poetry, or drama choose literature for their expression because they believe that there are at least two valid sides to any major issue: not just a simple right and wrong. Reading and interpreting literature nourishes them with a sense of the complexity of life's deepest mysteries: love, hate, death, conflicts between the individual and society, and so on. When writers approach these problems they do so with greater self-awareness and greater tolerance for the views of others.

The seminar aims to create a platform for understanding literature; to illustrate the power of literature as a source of knowledge that transcends the insights of history, sociology, psychology, philosophy and conventional literary criticism.

For doubts/queries, contact:

Dr. V. L. Rinawmi
Secretary
7005214526/8415846564