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Professor and Head, Department of English, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh

Coordinator, Research Centre in English, PGGCG-11, Panjab University, Chandigarh

Member, Academic Council, Panjab University, Chandigarh

Qualification: MA, UGC-NET, M Phil, PhD

Areas of specialization/research interests: World Literature, Literary and Cultural Theory, South Asian Literature in English, New Media Studies

Teaching experience: 31 years; Classes taught - Pre-PhD Course Work, Post-graduate, Undergraduate, and Honours

BOOK PUBLISHED

Nayantara Sahgal: A Century of Political Insights, Routledge: London, 2023.

(Book reviews published in *Indian Literature*, Sahitya Akademi Journal, #339, Jan-Feb 2024, Vol. LXVIII, No.1; *The Book Review* (Vol. XLVII, No. 12, December 2023): *dialog*, Dept of English and Cultural studies, PU, Chandigarh; <https://dialog.puchd.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Manjit-Inder-Singh.pdf>

PAPERS PUBLISHED

- “The Anti-Essentialism of Saidian Thought” in *Summerhill: IIAS Review*, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, Vol. XVII, No.2 (Winter) 2011.
- “The Ideological Overlaps of the Saidian and the Sahgalian Thought” in *Indian Literature*, Sahitya Akademi Literary Journal, No. 267: Jan/Feb 2012, Vol. LVI No.1

- “A Study of Naxalism in A Situation in New Delhi: Juxtaposing Sahgal’s Literary Temperance with Roy’s Voyeuristic Journalism” in *dialog* published by the Department of English and Cultural Studies, PU, Chandigarh, No.22 (Spring) 2012, ISSN 0975-4881.
- “Edward Said: An Intellectual Symbol of the 20th Century Phenomenon of Trans-migration” in *Multiple Perspectives on Indian/Punjabi Diaspora: Identities, Locations and Intersections* published by Publication Bureau, Punjabi University, Patiala, 2014. ISBN978-81302-0267-9.
- “Up, Close and Personal” Review of Ritu Menon’s *Out of Line: A Literary and Political Biography of Nayantara Sahgal*, Harper Collins, 2014 in *dialog* published by the Department of English and Cultural Studies, PU, Chandigarh, No.25 (Spring) 2014, ISSN 0975-4881.
- “Political Intervention in Minority Discourse: Storm in Chandigarh and India: A Million Mutinies Now” in *Discoursing Minority: In-Text and Co-Text*, Ed. Anisur Rahman, Jaipur: Rawat Publications, 2014.
- “The Changing Contours of Postcolonialism: Diasporization, Deterritorialization, Globalization” published in *Critical Perspectives on Indian /Punjabi Diaspora: Narratives of Migration in Southeast and Far East*, Publication Bureau, Punjabi University, Patiala, 2015. ISBN978-81302-0267-9.
- “Underground on Earth: The Theoretical Conundrum in Salman Rushdie’s Joseph Anton” in *Indian Association of Commonwealth Language and Literature Studies Journal* (IACLALS), Vol.2, 2016 ISSN 2395-1206.
- “Of Creativity and Carnality” Review of Hanif Kureishi’s *The Last Word* (Faber and Faber, 2015) in *dialog* Vol 27 (Spring 2015) Dept. of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh. ISSN 0975-4881.

INVITED TALKS

- Delivered the expert lecture on postcolonial studies titled, “The Influence of Twentieth Century Thinkers on Gayatri Chakraborty Spivak” at the post-graduate department of English, Guru Gobind Singh College for Women, Sector-26, Chandigarh on 7th March 2017.
- Delivered an extension lecture titled “Feminism/Feminisms” on 8th March 2017, International Women’s Day, at the post-graduate department of English, Government College, Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar, Mohali.
- Delivered an extension lecture on “The Relevance of *Orientalism* in Contemporary Postcolonial Studies” at the department of English, Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib on 22nd March 2017.
- Expert lecture on “New Historicism, Post-colonialism and Feminism” at Guru Gobind Singh College for Women on 3rd April, 2018.
- Resource person for the seven day online workshop ‘Research in the Time of a Pandemic’ organized by the Dept of English and Cultural studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh on April 25, 2020(day 6). Topic: “Review ing New Research and Guidelines for Writing Review Papers”.
- Keynote address: “Literature and Society”, National Seminar organized by the Dept of English, SD College Barnala, Panjab, on June 27, 2020.
- Personal Contact Programme (PCP) University School of Open Learning(USOL), Panjab University, Chandigarh, December 2020, delivered a talk on “The System of Objects” on 23-12-2020.

- Contact Programme(PCP) University School of Open Learning(USOL), Panjab University, Chandigarh, December 2020, delivered a talk on “Simulations and Simulacra” on 24-12-2020.
- Inter College Online Expert lecture at the Post Graduate Department of English, Sri Guru Gobind Singh College, Sector 26, Chandigarh on February 17, 2021. Title: “Decoding Jean Baudrillard”.
- Delivered a talk at Rotary Club, Chandigarh webinar on International Women’s Day, on 8th March, 2021. Title: “Phenomenal Women”.
- Delivered the extension lecture to students and faculty of Post Graduate Department of English and Cultural Studies, Christ University, Bangalore, on September 27, 2021. Title: “New Criticism to Literary Theory: Juxtaposing T.S. Eliot and Roland Barthes”.
- Conducted the morning session at the UGC–HRDC online Refresher Course in English 2021 at Amravati University, Maharashtra, on November 11, 2021. Title: “From Exchange Value to Sign Value: Baudrillard in the Postmodern Moment”.
- Contact Programme (PCP) University School of Open Learning (USOL), Panjab University, Chandigarh, December 2020, delivered a talk on Paper I, Unit V on 9-11-2021.
- Contact Programme(PCP) University School of Open Learning(USOL), Panjab University, Chandigarh, December 2020, delivered a talk on Unit V, Paper I on 10-11-2021.
- Spoke on “Impact of Colonialism and Neo-colonialism in the Indian Context” at the Dept of English, Sri Aurobindo College, Delhi University, on February 9, 2022.
- Contact Programme (PCP) University School of Open Learning(USOL), Panjab University, Chandigarh, December 2020, delivered a talk on Module I, Critical Theory of MAI on 9-11-2022.
- Contact Programme (PCP) University School of Open Learning(USOL), Panjab University, Chandigarh, December 2020, delivered a talk on Module I, Critical Theory of MAI on 10-11-2022.
- Speaker and Guest of Honour at the World Literature Summit and World Poetry Conference IV at Chandigarh, India (6-7 November 2022). Title: “The Economic Universe of Value: Use, Exchange, Sign”.
- Resource Person at the Personal Contact Programme, University School of Open Learning, PU, Chandigarh on 22 March 2023. Topic: Reflections on Creative Writing.
- Delivered a talk at Refresher Course for faculty on “Literary Theories and Research” organized by UGC Human Resource Development Centre and PGTDE, RTMNU, Nagpur University, on 28th August 2023. Topic: Would Cultural Studies Have Taken Off Without Critical Theory?
- Resource Person, Research Methods Workshop (21-8-2023 to 25-8-2023) organized by the Post Graduate Dept of English, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh. Topic: The Significance of Critical Approaches/Theories in Research, 24th August 2023.
- In Conversation with Prof Rudrangshu Mukherjee, Chancellor, Ashoka University, Sonapat, on *Nayantara Sahgal: A Century of Political Insights*, May 12, 2023 at Government Museum and Art Gallery, Sector 10, Chandigarh.

- Invited Speaker, Rotary Club, Sector 18, Chandigarh, May 22, 2023. Book released by former Rotary International President, Mr Raja Saboo.
https://rotaryindia.org/Documents/ebulletin/Group3267/Bulletin_Issue_4626052023062040PM
- Delivered Special Lecture to MA II students at Centre for Distance and Online Education, Dept of English, Panjab University, Chandigarh, on “Gender and Sexuality in Literature” on November 2, 2023.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

- “Edward Said as a Liberating Text”, UGC Seminar on 'Post Colonialism and Indian Literatures: Experience, Texts, Theories' organized by AS College, Khanna, November 18 -19, 2010.
- “A Perspective on Divergent Responses to Naxalism”, UGC National Seminar on 'Human Rights and Human Development' organized by Government Mohindra College, Patiala on November 18, 2011.
- “The Dialectics of Political Intervention in Minority Discourse: A Study of Nayantara Sahgal’s Storm in Chandigarh and VS Naipaul’s India :A Million Mutinies Now”, International Conference on 'Minority Discourses Across Cultures' organized by Comparative Literature Association of India(CLAI) and CURAJ at the Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer from February 26-28, 2013.
- “Interrogating Tradition: Seminal Commonalities in Diverse Theoretical Perspectives”, National Seminar on 'New Paradigms in Fiction/Non-Fiction: Exploring Alterity and Tradition' organized by the Department of English, Punjabi University, Patiala on March 13, 2013.
- “Edward Said: The Intellectual Spirit of the Diasporic Experience” National Workshop on 'Indian/PunjabiDiaspora: Identities, Locations, Intersections' organized by the Centre for Diasporic Studies, Punjabi University, Patiala from March 28-30, 2013.
- “The Changing Contours of Postcolonialism: Diasporization, Deterritorialization, Globalization”, International Conference on 'Indian/Punjabi Diaspora: Narratives of Migration in South East Asia and Far East' held from February 24-26, 2014 at Punjabi University, Patiala.
- Chaired a session at the International Conference on 'Indian/Punjabi Diaspora: Narratives of Migration in South East Asia and Far East' held from February 24-26, 2014 at Punjabi University, Patiala.
- “Exiled at Home – Shakespearean Treatment of Kashmiri Alienation in Vishal Bhardwaj’s Haider” at the International Conference on 'Indian/ Punjabi Diasporic Cinema: Narratives of transnational Experience' on March 26, 2015 at the Centre for Diaspora Studies, Punjabi University, Patiala.
- “Underground on Earth: The Theoretical Conundrum in Salman Rushdie’s Joseph Anton” IACLALS Conference on ‘Space, Place, Travel, Displacement and Exile’ at Bits Pilani, KK Birla Goa Campus on February 14, 2015.
- “Re-emergence of Logocentrism in Postcolonial Ethnocentric Language Theorizations.” at the 17th Triennial Conference of the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies((ACLALS) held, July 10–16, 2016, at University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa on 'Ideas of Postcolonial Culture: Inclusions and Exclusions'. The presentation was financially supported by the UGC, New Delhi.

- "Digging into the Canonized Exotica: The Classical Lineage of the 'Other'" Triennial Congress of the International Federation for Modern Languages and Literatures, March 15-17, 2017 on the theme, 'The Familiar and the Exotic in Language and Literature: The Politics of Perception and Representation'. The FILLM conference was organized by UNESCO.
- "In Conversation with the Author", an interface with Dileep Chandan, author of *Ballad of Kaziranga* and the translator, Parbina Rashid, at the 7th edition of Chandigarh Literature Festival (clf) held at PGGCG-11, Chandigarh on November 2, 2018.
- Chaired the session, "Spaces and Non-spaces in India", at the two-day national seminar on Theory-Literature Interface: Possibilities of Re-searching India", May 11, 2023 organized by Dept of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh.
- Chaired a session at the Chandigarh Language Conference on "Towards a Comparative Cosmopolis: Language, Culture and Hybridity" organized by the Panjab University, Chandigarh on 15th February, 2024 at the Mulk Raj Anand auditorium, PU.

PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

- Orientation Course organized by the Academic Staff College, Panjab University, Chandigarh w.e.f. September 1 - 28, 2000.
- UGC sponsored Refresher Course in English organized by the Department of English under the auspices of the Academic Staff College, Panjab University, Chandigarh from March 6 - 26, 2002.
- UGC sponsored Refresher Course in English organized by the Department of English under the auspices of the Academic Staff College, Panjab University, Chandigarh from February 20 - March 12, 2003.
- UGC sponsored Refresher Course in English organized by the UGC Refresher Course Centre, Punjabi University, Patiala from March 8 - 28, 2004.
- RUSA sponsored faculty development workshop on "Research Methodology and Statistical Tools in Research" held at PGGCG-11, Chandigarh on December 1, 2015.
- RUSA sponsored faculty development workshop on "Web-based Educational Recourses" held on March 23, 2019 at PGGCG-11, Chandigarh under the aegis of State Higher Education Council, Chandigarh.
- Completed 7-day ICT Training programme organized by the Directorate of Technical Education, U.T. Chandigarh Administration from September 30 - October 4, 2019.

PhD SUPERVISION

THESES SUBMISSIONS

- Harpreet Kaur, title: "Roots, Migration and Cosmopolitanism: Cultural Formations in Selected British Diasporic fiction." (2020).
- Inderpreet Kaur, title: "Postmetropolis: Spatial Reconfigurations of Mumbai in Contemporary Indian Literature" (2022).

RESEARCH PROJECTS UNDERWAY (APPROVED BY THE RESEARCH BOARD, PU, CHANDIGARH)

- Versions of the Past: Historiography and the 1984 Violence (Zoya Kaur Negi)
- #Cybercommercials; A Critical Study of Select Advertisements of the Post-Television Era (Chinar)
- Disability, AI, and Gender: A Posthumanist Study of Selected Post-Apocalyptic Films (Aastha Bhardwaj)
- Embodied Cognition and Postmodern Subjectivity: A Study of Select Science-Fiction Web-Series (Simrat Kaur)
- Emerging Literary Aesthetics: A Textual Analysis of Select litRPG (Shavleen Kaur)
- Visual Grammar of Mutating Ideologies: A Spatio-Semiotic Study of Select Statues in India (Neha Pandey)
- Assessing the Auteurial Role: A Critical Study of Select Shonen Anime (Aparna Lohumi)
- Comparative Analysis of Space in Tolkien's Fiction and its Cinematic Adaptations (tentative title) (Swastika Verma)

JURY MEMBER

- Judged the All India Frank Anthony Inter-school Debates held on April 19, 2010 and April 18, 2011 at The British Co-Ed High School, Patiala.
- Jury member (2013) 'Malti Gyanpeeth Puraskar' awarded for excellence in High School teaching in Sciences and Humanities by the Government of Punjab in collaboration with Syngle Education Society. The award has been conferred by the President of India, Mr Pranab Mukherjee; Vice-President of India, Mr Hamid Ansari; former President of India, Mr Abdul Kalam and Vice-President, Mr M Venkaiah Naidu among others.
- Judge for All India Inter-University Competition, Expressions@ RGNUL at the Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab on March 22, 2017.
- Judged the Vivek High Inter School English Debate Competition on August 10, 2017.
- Judge for Credence III - Inter-School Literati Competition - held at Carmel Convent School, Sector-9, Chandigarh on July 23, 2019.
- Judged the Annual Vivek High Inter School English Debate Competition on August 28, 2021.
- Member pre-screening committee for CAS promotion from Stage III to Stage IV, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh.
- Appointed Subject Expert for selection of Assistant Professors by Director Higher Education, UT, Chandigarh to Guru Gobind Singh College, Sector-26, Chandigarh (September 25, 2021), MCM College Sector-36 Chandigarh (December 2021) and GGSDS College, Sector-32 Chandigarh (June 3, 2022) and for selection of contractual staff to Regional Institute of English, UT, Chandigarh (2018).
- Judged the Annual Speech Trophy of Vivek High School, Sector 38, Chandigarh, held on 27 January 2023.
- Judged the KK Grover Goodwill Declamation Contest organized by the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Punjab University, Chandigarh, on 24th February 2023.
- Jury, The Annual Vivek High School Inter School Debate Competition 2023, August 25, 2023 at VHS -38, Chandigarh.
- Judged the The Annual Vivek High School Inter School Dramatic Interpretation Competition, August 25, 2023 at VHS -38, Chandigarh.

- Member pre-screening committee for CAS promotion cases from associate professors to professors, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh
- Member pre-screening committee for CAS promotion cases of assistant professors from stage III to stage IV, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh.
- Appointed subject expert for the screening-cum-evaluation of CAS cases from stage I to stage II as per UGC regulations 2018 in the subject of English by the Vice chancellor, Punjab University, Chandigarh, January 18, 2024.

AWARDS & ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

- Awarded Teacher Fellowship under FIP Scheme during 11th Plan period for PhD research w.e.f. January 28 2010 - April 27, 2012.
- Delivered lectures and contributed to the EDUSAT Programme initiated by the Dept of Higher Education, Panjab Govt in 2009-10.
- Paper setter of English Paper for the Panjab Civil Services(PCS -Mains) conducted by PPSC, Patiala, 2010.
- Convener and Member of Literary and Debating Society, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh, from 2013 to present.
- Assistant Editor of *dialog* (<http://dialog.puchd.ac.in>), 2015 and 2016.
- The paper, "Underground on Earth: The Theoretical Conundrum in Salman Rushdie's *Joseph Anton*" was shortlisted for the CD Narasimhaiah National Award at the IACLALS conference in 2015.
- Honorary Teaching: Taught two modules, Shakespeare (MAII) and British Fiction (MAI) at the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh from July 9 - August 16, 2018 on honorary basis.
- Coordinator, 7th edition of the Chandigarh Literature Festival (clf) organized by ADAB foundation at PGGCG-11 from November 1-3, 2018.
- Member of Joint Academic and Administrative Committee (JAAC) and Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for PhD scholars of the Research Centre and Department of English, PU, Chandigarh,
- Coordinator, 8th edition of the Chandigarh Literature Festival (clf) organized by ADAB foundation at PGGCG-11, Chandigarh from November 8-10, 2019.
- Elected Member Academic Council, Panjab University, Chandigarh for the term February 1, 2022 - January 31, 2024.
- Co-opted member of Joint Academic and Administrative Council (JAAC), Department of English and Cultural Studies, Punjab University, Chandigarh, for framing the curriculum of PU undergraduate programme as per the guidelines of New Education Policy of UGC, New Delhi, in February 2023.
- Convenor, CDC sponsored National Seminar on "Contemporary Aesthetics and Technology" in the Dept of English and Centre for Research, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh on 22 February 2023(Invited Speakers: Prof Akshaya Kumar, Chair, Dept of English and Cultural Studies, PU and Prof Arjun Ghosh, IIT, New Delhi).
- Moderator, panel discussion at the national seminar on "Contemporary Aesthetics and Technology", 22-2-2023. Speakers: Prof BN Goswamy, Prof Neelam Man Singh Chowdhry, Neel Kamal Puri and Khushwant Singh)
- Convenor, "Personal Narratives on the Trauma of Partition", organized at the Research Centre, Dept of English,

PGGCG-11, on 21st August 2023.

- Convenor, Panel Discussion on “Reflections on Teaching English literature”, 2nd September 2023, Conference Room, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh. Participants: current and ex-faculty, Dept of English.
- Convenor, Soft Skills Training Workshop organized on 6th November 2023 in the Dept of English and Centre for Research, PGGCG-11, Chandigarh.
- Member, Editorial Team, Rotary Newsletter, Chandigarh Rotary Club, 2023-24

ARTICLES IN NATIONAL DAILIES

- Book Review, “An Earthy Epic Unspooled from the Core of Punjab”, *Naulakhi Kothi* by Ali Akbar Natiq, Translated by Naima Rashid (Penguin Random House), *Tribune*, October 8, 2023.
<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/book-reviews/ali-akbar-natiqs-naulakhi-kothi-is-an-earthy-epic-unspooled-from-core-of-punjab-551490>
- Book Review, “Tender Saga on Squash Court”, *Western Lane* by Chetna Maroo (PanMacmillan), shortlisted for Booker, *Tribune*, September 3, 2023. <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/book-reviews/booker-longlisted-western-lane-by-chetna-maroo-tender-saga-on-squash-court-540729>
- Book Review, “Polarizing Chapter from Pakistan”, *The History Teacher of Lahore* by Tahira Naqvi (Speaking Tiger) *Tribune*, December 3, 2023. <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/book-reviews/tahira-naqvi-the-history-teacher-of-lahore-polarising-chapter-from-pakistan-568295>
- Review article “The Curious Case Of Padre Lorenzo”, *Lorenzo Searches for the Meaning of Life* by Upamanyu Chatterjee (Speaking Tiger), February 18, 2024. <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/reviews/story/lorenzo-searches-for-the-meaning-of-life-by-upamanyu-chatterjee-the-curious-case-of-padre-lorenzo-591845>
- “When Your Wildest Dreams Come True on Jungle Safari”, *Hindustan Times*, May 18, 2023.
- “Of Courtesy, Currency and Cultural Churnings”, *Hindustan Times*, December 3, 2021.
- “Ariel’s Love’s Labour Lost: Learnings of a Pet Mother”, *Hindustan Times*, November 8, 2021.
- “The Devil in the Detail Can Be Seriously Funny”, *Hindustan Times*, October 15, 2021,
- “Piling Up Good Deeds of Joy to Build Mountains of Joy”, *Hindustan Times*, September 13, 2021.
- “On the Learning Curve in Life’s Eternal Class-room” *Hindustan Times*, August 12, 2021.
- “Gifts of a Lifetime and a Tinge of Pride”, *Hindustan Times*, April 16, 2020.
- “Mastering the Art of Kennel-clature”, *Hindustan Times*, March 6, 2020.
- “The Sound of Silence”, *Hindustan Times*, January 22, 2013.
- “The Musical Divide”, *Hindustan Times*, June 19, 2012.
- “Vegetable Soup for the Soul”, *Hindustan Times*, May 1, 2012.

- “The secret Ballot”, *Hindustan Times*, March 6, 2012.
- “Andretta’s Forgotten Legacy”, *Hindustan Times*, February 27, 2012.
- “A life well lived”, *Hindustan Times*, February 25, 2012.
- “From Indian Identity to National Character”, *Daily Post*, January 11, 2012.
- “Growing Up with the Gizmos”, *Tribune*, January 2, 2012. <https://m.tribuneindia.com/2012/20120102/edit.htm#5>