

TEACHING PLAN

Week	Dates	Text/Topic/Theme	Discussion	Teacher's name + Text
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Paper No. & Name: Paper I / Indian Classical Literature

Objective/s of Paper: To introduce and problematise the idea of “classical” vis-à-vis Indian Literature. Using four major texts from Indian classical languages (Sanskrit and Tamil, here), the intent is to impart a sense of historicity and empower the students to link the continuity of the “classical” past with the “contemporary”.

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1	20/07/16 to 23/07/16	Introduction to Classical Tamil literature	Literary history of classical literature in Sanskrit and Tamil, Classical Tamil or <i>Sangam</i> literature, Old Tamil and development of new Tamil languages and literatures	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Indian Literature in English Translation	Introduction to the Indian literature in English translation.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Overview of Sanskrit Drama	Major Playwrights: Bhasa, Kalidasa and Sudrakaa	Kuljeet Singh (History of Sanskrit Drama)
2	25/07/16 to 30/07/2016	Introduction to the study of epic tradition	Aristotle's views on epic as a genre, Sanskrit <i>kavya</i> literary tradition and major Sanskrit epics and the tradition of Tamil epic.	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Relevance of Indian Literature in the English Literary Sphere	Importance of classical Indian literature in the discipline of English literature and how classical Indian literature is important in modern days.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		<i>Natyashastra</i>	>Origin and development of Sanskrit Drama. >Characteristics of Sanskrit Drama >Concept of Rasa-Bhava	Kuljeet Singh (Sudraka's <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>)
3	01/08/16 to	Classical Tamil	Conventions of <i>akam</i> and	Mehul Bhushan

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	06/08/16	literary tradition	<i>puram</i> poetry, study of <i>Tholakappiyam</i> , comparison between the use of metaphor and suggestion in Sanskrit aesthetics and Tamil poetics	(Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Epic Tradition: Origin and Characteristics	Origin of epic tradition and its characteristic differences between primary and secondary epic.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Sudraka and <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>	The playwright Sudraka and his play <i>Mrichchhakatika</i> . Seed play (bija nataka) by Bhasa, <i>Daridra Charudatt</i>	Kuljeet Singh (Sudraka's <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>)
4	08/08/16 to 13/08/16	Introduction to <i>Cilappatikaram</i>	Context and concerns, idea of Tamil poetics and Tamil cultural nationalism	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Indian Epics vs Greek Epics	Analytical comparison between Indian and Greek epic.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		<i>Dasrupaka</i> in Sanskrit Drama	Prakarna (<i>Mrichchhakatika</i>) and Nataka (<i>Abhijnanasakuntalam</i>)	Kuljeet Singh (Sudraka's <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>)
5	15/08/16 to 20/08/16 (15 th August – Gazetted Holiday)	Thematic study of <i>Cilappatikaram's</i> Prologue	Historical development of monarchy from clan-based societies, praise genealogies of Kings in both Sanskrit and Old Tamil, orality and politics of <i>Cilappatikaram</i>	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		<i>Mahabharata</i> : Origins and Narrative Technique	Origin of <i>Mahabharata</i> , its narrative technique.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Prologue in Sanskrit	Prologue in	Kuljeet Singh

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		Drama	<i>Mrichchhakatika</i> and other Sanskrit plays	(Sudraka's <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>)
6	22/08/16 to 27/08/16 25 th August – Gazetted Holiday	Text: Reading and analysis of Canto 24	Nature in Tamil poetics, politics of gender relations and the patriarchal authority of the King in the epic, Kannagi as the woman protagonist of an epic	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		<i>Mahabharata</i> : Genealogy and Story	Genealogy and whole story of <i>Mahabharata</i> in brief.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Text: Analysis of first two acts	Departure from the <i>bija nataka</i> , <i>Daridra Charudatt</i>	Kuljeet Singh (Sudraka's <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>)
7	29/08/16 to 03/09/16	Text: Reading and analysis of Canto 25	Twin themes of Kingship and chastity in Tamil poetics, politics and culture, figures of Kannagi and King Cenkuvattuvan, <i>Vanci thinai</i> , Hindu and tribal pastoral systems of thought and religious practice	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Blurred Lines: Myth vs Reality in <i>Mahabharata</i>	Myth and reality in <i>Mahabharata</i>	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Analysis of Acts three and four	Twin plot and the layered narrative	Kuljeet Singh (Sudraka's <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>)
8	05/09/16 to 10/09/16 (9th September – no classes on account of DUSU)	Text: Reading and analysis of Canto 26	<i>Tumpai thinai</i> , war, heroism and imperial politics in <i>silappadhikaram</i> , Cult of Pattini, Tamil thought, literature and popular culture of Sangam tradition	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)

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	elections)	The Game of Dice	Significance of the game of dice, textual analysis with critical views.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Analysis of Acts five and six	Departure from <i>Naytashastra</i> and <i>Sudraka's</i> as a storyteller	Kuljeet Singh (<i>Sudraka's Mrichchhakatika</i>)
9	12/09/16 to 17/09/16 13 th Sept – Gazetted holiday for Eid-ul-Zuha (Bakrid)	Reading of Canto 26 continued	Intersectionality of <i>Puram</i> and <i>Akam</i> poetry	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Theme of Envy	How game of dice is metaphor for war theme of envy.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Feedback, Class Test & Assignment work	Questions and doubts with regard to the text in progress. Assignment work allocation.	Kuljeet Singh (<i>Sudraka's Mrichchhakatika</i>)
10	19/09/16 to 24/09/16	Text: Reading and analysis of Canto 27	<i>Pattini Kadavul</i> - religion and monarchy in Tamil politics	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Dharma	Concept of dharma and moral dilemma associated of with duty.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Analysis of Acts seven and eight	The "other" characters in the play. Romance, comedy, intrigue and a political subplot	Kuljeet Singh (<i>Sudraka's Mrichchhakatika</i>)
11	26/09/16 to 01/10/16	Reading and analysis of Canto 27 continued	Notion of <i>karma</i> and <i>dharma</i> in Hindu and Jaina system of thought, prevalence of multiple systems of thought and religious practice in the epic, identity of Ilango Adikal	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Women in the <i>Mahabharata</i>	Position of women in the context of Draupadi, Kunti Gandhari etc.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)

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		Analysis of Acts nine and ten	Who is the protagonist? Vasantasena or Charudatt	Kuljeet Singh (Sudraka's <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>)
12	03/10/16 to 08/10/16 + 10 th Oct	Text: Reading and analysis of Canto 28	Kanchi <i>thinai</i> , the institutionalization of cult of Pattini, king's imperial and political agenda, historical changes in Tamil political and literary culture	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Sequel to Dicing	The sequel to dice textual analysis with critical views.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Critical Readings	Discussion of themes, significance and problem areas	Kuljeet Singh (Sudraka's <i>Mrichchhakatika</i>)
	11/10/16- 15/10/16	UNIVERSITY MID -	SEMESTER BREAK	
13	17/10/16 to 22/10/16	Text: Reading and analysis of Canto 29	Tamil poetics and earlier oral tradition, social context of Kannagi's subversion and her deification, multiple narratorial strategies in the epic	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Temptation of Karna	Temptation of Karna critical analysis of the text.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Kalidasa's <i>Abhijnanasakuntalam</i> Text: Prologue and Act 1	Introduction to the world of Kalidasa's nature	Kuljeet Singh (Kalidasa's <i>Abhijnanasakuntalam</i>)
14	24/10/16 to 29/10/16	Text: Reading and analysis of Canto 30 and Epilogue	Cilappatikaram and Manimekalai, alternative spiritual sources and institutionalized religion, Justice and chastity	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Caste and Identity in	Issue of caste and identity	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar

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		<i>Mahabharata</i>	in the context of Karna	(Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Analysis of Act 2-3-4	Norms of love and marriage	Kuljeet Singh (Kalidasa's <i>Abhijnanasakuntalam</i>)
15	31/10/16 to 05/11/16	Text: Reading and analysis of Canto 30	A reception history of the epic and the revival of classical Tamil literature	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		<i>Mahabharata</i> and the Modern Times	Relevance of <i>Mahabharata</i> in contemporary time with the examples of Andha Yug, Rashmirathi and Draupadi etc.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Analysis of Act 5-6-7	Woods and the City: The twin worlds of Kalidasa	Kuljeet Singh (Kalidasa's <i>Abhijnanasakuntalam</i>)
16	07/11/16 to 12/11/16	Questions and answers	Discussion and preparation	Mehul Bhushan (Adigal's <i>Cilappatikaram</i>)
		Questions and answers	Discussion and preparation	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar (Vyasa's <i>Mahabharata</i>)
		Questions and responses	Discussion and preparation	Kuljeet Singh (Sudraka'Kalidasa's <i>Abhijnanasakuntalam</i>)