

**SRI MEENAKSHI GOVERNMENT ARTS COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
(AUTONOMOUS), MADURAI-02**

**REPORT ON THE NATIONAL SEMINAR 04.03.2020 CONDUCTED BY
PG AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

The study of contemporary literary theories and its application in interpreting literary works has become indispensable as this multifaceted approach to literature renders a rewarding experience. The discipline of literary critical theory offers a premise of examining, understanding and synthesizing the knowledge embedded in creative writing. So, PG and Research Department of English, Sri Meenakshi Government Arts College for Women (Autonomous), Madurai-02 organized a UGC Sponsored One Day National Seminar on “Contemporary Literary Theories” on 04.03.2020 to lend a platform to deliberate upon the precepts and practice of critical theory and to foreground a systematic explanation of practices in a broader framework.

Dr.A.Joseph Dorairaj, Prof. of English and Dean, School Of English & Foreign Languages, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram gave the keynote address on “**What Is Postmodernism?**” stressed on the principles of Postmodernism. **Dr.T.Marx**, Prof. of English, Pondicherry Univ. Pondicherry, Resource Person of the second session explained the concepts of history, culture, nationalism, migration, gender and race in the context of post-colonial theories and literatures on the topic “**Postcolonial Theory And Practice**”. The post-lunch session was handled by **Rev.Dr.S.Paul Pragash**, Vice-Principal, Asst. Prof of English, Arul Anandar College, Karumathur on the topic “**An Overview Of Contemporary Literary Theories**”. He emphasized how critical theories assumed considerable importance in the realm of literary and cultural studies in the last two decades. A total number of 240 participants including Heads, Associate/Assistant Professors, Research Scholars and Students of P.G. (English) from various colleges across the state and country participated in the seminar.

At the outset, the seminar provided both the teachers and students an opportunity to understand and acquire skills needed to engage with contemporary, theoretically informed writing in literary and cultural studies. It also helped them to familiarize some of the most influential writers of the 20th and 21st centuries and made them informed of major theoretical movements including structuralism, poststructuralism, modernism, postmodernism, Marxism.