



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Office of the Principal

SHAHID MATANGINI HAZRA GOVT. GENERAL DEGREE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

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**Report on 'Kibhabe Chotogalpo Lekha Hay'
Speaker: Professor and writer Dr. Arindam Goswami**

Date: 13/06/2023

Today was the third day of the discussion series organized by Shahid Matangini Hazra Government General Degree College for Women's Bengali Department and IQAC jointly organized on 'Bangla Sahitya: Multidimensional Review'. Distinguished Professor and fiction writer Dr. Arindam Goswami was present among us today. The topic of his speech was : " Kibhabe Galpo lekha hay". He said at the very beginning of his speech that he was interested in writing stories since his teenage years. Then he briefly presented the context of short story creation in world literature. He said that since the French Revolution, the spread of the short story literary genre began. It was originally published as sketch, tale. Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle, Nikolai Gogol's 'Overcoat', Ivan Turgenev's 'Sportsman Sketch' — all these short stories were published as 'sketch' or 'tale'. Then Professor Dr. Goswami said about the 'single impression' of short stories. Incidentally, the theoretical opinion about Edgar Allan Poe's short stories came up. Regarding Narayan Gangopadhyay's opinion on 'Single impression', he said — The special impression that arises in our mind after reading and listening to a story is an impression. Then he said about the short stories in Bengali literature that at the very beginning of the nineteenth century, from the time of publication of newspapers or periodicals, 'Churnak' like writings started to be published. Which were not exactly short stories, but had short story potential. He also told us about Sanjeev Chandra Chattopadhyay's 'Damini', 'Rameshwari Adrishta' or Purnachandra Chattopadhyay's 'Madhumati'. He expressed doubts as to how much these writings have become short stories at all. After that he said Bengali story writing started with the short stories written by Rabindranath Tagore. A new journey of short stories started with the center of 'Sabujpatra' magazine. Then the story line was changed to focus on 'Kallol' magazine. Famous short story writers like Bimal Kar, Ramanath Roy etc. started various movements based on short stories.

Then Dr. Goswami said in the second part of his talk that we are taught how to critique on a story but not how to write the story. Then trying to summarize what he said about how to write a story:

- We can get the story from the world around us. A story can start from any one event.
- To write a story, one must first possess the language. Emphasis should be placed on how language can be made suggestive.
- The storyteller will intersperse his own point of view or philosophy into the story within the presentation of common events.
- The overall story should be memorable.

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- Emphasize the narrator's presentation of the story by concealing himself.
- Emphasis should be placed on indirect rather than direct description.
- The storyteller will have an urge for seeing the sea in a drop of water.
- The content of the story may vary. There can be animals or other things besides humans.
- Stories can be written by resorting to omniscient, first person or third person's views.
- Space for striking can be created. An atmosphere of contrast can be created within the story.

Incidentally, he mentioned the names of several famous stories of Bengali literature. For example - Manik Bandyopadhyay's 'Haraner Naatmai', Jyotirindra Nandi's 'Chor', Bimal Kar's 'Amra tin premik O Bhuvan', Rabindranath Tagore's 'Madhyabartini', 'Samapti', Tarashankar Bandyopadhyay's 'Agradani', Subodh Ghosh's 'Sundaram' etc.

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