

# **SEMINAR REPORT**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH IN  
COLLABORATION OF THE IQAC**

**POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA**

**POLBA, HOOGHLY**

**TOPIC OF THE SEMINAR: PARTITION  
COMICS**

**RESOURCE PERSON: DR. ANIRBAN GUHA  
THAKURTA,**

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH,  
SERAMPORE COLLEGE**

**DATE : 12.04.2023**

to

The Teacher-in-Charge

Polba Mahavidyalaya

Polba, Hooghly

Pin – 712148

Sub:: Seeking permission to organize a one-day Departmental seminar on Partition Comics

Respected Sir,

With due respect I, on behalf of Department of English in collaboration with the IQAC, Polba Mahavidyalaya, would like to request your kind permission to organize a one-day Departmental Seminar on "Partition Comics" in our college premises. The proposed date of the said seminar is tentatively 12.04.2023. the date would be finalized according to the convenience of the resource person.

- Proposed Resource Person: Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta, assistant professor, Serampore College, Hooghly
- Proposed Budget :
  - a. Resource person Honorarium: Rs. 1000/=

Hope would be kind enough to provide your administrative and financial permission for the forthcoming seminar.

Thanks and regards

*Md Mizanur Rahaman Sardar.*

Md Mizanur Rahaman Sardar

Head

Department of English

Polba Mahavidyalaya

*Sardar.*  
22.04.23



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# POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA

Post Office - Polba, District - Hooghly, West Bengal, Pin - 712148

AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN

Recognized under Sections 2(f) & 12(B) of the UGC Act. 1956

NAAC Accredited

Ref. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 04.04.2023

To

Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta  
Assistant Professor in English  
Serampore College

**Sub: Invitation to deliver a speech as a Resource Person in a One-day  
Departmental Seminar on "Partition Comics."**

Sir,

We feel happy to announce that the Department of English in collaboration with IQAC, Polba Mahavidyalaya is going to organize a "One-Day Departmental Seminar on "Partition Comics" on 12.04.2023 at the College Premises.

On this occasion, on behalf our institute, I cordially invite you to deliver one-hour lecture as a very distinguished Resource Person. Intimation from your end as confirmation would be highly appreciated.

Thanking you,  
With Regards,

Teacher in Charge

Polba Mahavidyalaya

Teacher in Charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Polba, Hooghly, West Bengal

*Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta*  
22.04.23

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Date: 03.04.2023

## NOTICE

This is to inform all students and faculty members that the Department of English, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Polba Mahavidyalaya, is organizing a one-day departmental seminar on "Partition Comics."

**Date: 12th April 2023**

**Time: 12:30 PM**

**Venue: College Premises**

We are honored to have Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta, Assistant Professor of English at Serampore College, Hooghly, as the resource person for this seminar.

All students are requested to attend the seminar and participate actively.

Your presence is highly anticipated.

*A. Guha Thakurta*  
03/4/23

Teacher-in-Charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya

Teacher in Charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Polba, Hooghly, West Bengal

*S. S. S. S.*  
22.04.23



# SCHEDULE OF ONE DAY SEMINAR ON PARTITION NARRATIVES

12.04.2023

ORGANIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH IN COLLABORATION OF IQAC

POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA

- REGISTRATION: 12.30 PM
- INAUGURAL SESSION: 1 PM - Welcoming Narugopal Kaibartya, TIC Sir, Dr. Santanu Sengupta IQAC Coordinator Sir and Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta, the chief speaker.
- INAUGURAL SPEECH: 1.15 PM – Narugopal Kaibartya, TIC of Polba Mahavidyalaya
- KEYNOTE SPEECH: 1.30 PM – Md Mizanur Rahaman Sardar, Assistant Professor, Deptt. Of English,
- INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER: Md Jisan Mondal, SACT, Department of English
- LECTURE SESSION: 1.30 PM – 2.30 PM – Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Serampore College
- FEEDBACK: 2.30 PM – 2.45 PM
- VOTE OF THANKS: 2.45 PM – Dr. Manali Choudhury Assistant Professor, Department of- English

*Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta*  
22.04.23

## POLBA, HOOGHLY, PIN-712148

22.04.23



## REPORT ON ONE-DAY DEPARTMENTAL SEMINAR ON PARTITION COMICS

DATE: 12.04.2023

ORGANIZED BY: DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH IN COLLABORATION WITH IQAC

VENUE: POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA

### INTRODUCTION:

The Department of English at Polba Mahavidyalaya, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), organized a one-day seminar on Partition Comics on March 15, 2024. The event aimed to explore the unique narrative medium of comics in representing and interpreting the narratives of the partition of India.

### REGISTRATION (12:30 PM):

The seminar kicked off with the registration process at 12:30 PM, attracting participants, students, and enthusiasts eager to delve into the world of partition narratives through the lens of comics. The campus buzzed with anticipation as attendees gathered, creating an environment of intellectual curiosity.

### INAUGURAL SESSION (1:00 PM):

The inaugural session commenced promptly at 1:00 PM, graced by the presence of Narugopal Kaibartya, Teacher-in-Charge of Polba Mahavidyalaya, Dr. Santanu Sengupta, IQAC Coordinator, and the chief speaker, Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta. The session began with a warm welcome by Narugopal Kaibartya, emphasizing the significance of exploring innovative mediums to understand historical events like the partition.

### INAUGURAL SPEECH (1:15 PM):

Narugopal Kaibartya delivered an inaugural speech, setting the tone for the seminar. He highlighted the importance of adapting to contemporary modes of storytelling, acknowledging the unique power of comics to communicate complex historical narratives to diverse audiences.

### KEYNOTE SPEECH (1:30 PM):

*Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta*  
22.4.23

The keynote speech was delivered by Md Mizanur Rahaman Sardar, Assistant Professor and Head of the Department of English. His address focused on the evolution of storytelling mediums and the role of comics as a powerful tool in portraying the nuances of historical events, specifically the partition.

#### LECTURE SESSION (1:30 PM – 2:30 PM):

The heart of the seminar was the engaging lecture by Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta, Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Serampore College. Dr. Thakurta's session explored the intersection of art and history in partition comics, providing insights into how the graphic medium can convey emotions and experiences uniquely. Attendees were captivated by examples from notable partition comics, showcasing the potency of visual storytelling.

#### FEEDBACK SESSION (2:30 PM – 2:40 PM):

A brief feedback session allowed participants to share their thoughts on the presentation. Attendees expressed enthusiasm for the unique perspective offered by Dr. Thakurta, emphasizing the importance of incorporating diverse mediums, such as comics, in academic discourse on historical events.

#### VOTE OF THANKS (2:40 PM):

The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Manali Choudhuri, Assistant Professor in the Department of English. Dr. Choudhuri expressed gratitude to the speakers, participants, and organizers who contributed to the success of the seminar. She highlighted the importance of embracing innovative ways of storytelling, acknowledging the potential of comics as a valuable resource for understanding and teaching history.

#### CONCLUSION:

The one-day seminar on Partition Comics organized by the Department of English at Polba Mahavidyalaya in collaboration with IQAC proved to be a thought-provoking and enlightening event. Attendees left with a newfound appreciation for the unique storytelling capabilities of comics in portraying historical narratives, particularly the complexities of the partition of India.

The collaboration between the Department of English and IQAC showcased Polba Mahavidyalaya's commitment to fostering intellectual exploration and embracing innovative pedagogical approaches. As the seminar concluded, it left a lasting impression on participants, encouraging them to explore and incorporate diverse mediums in their academic pursuits.

*Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta*  
22.04.23.



The success of this seminar reaffirmed the importance of creating spaces for interdisciplinary discussions, where traditional and contemporary modes of storytelling can coexist, contributing to a richer understanding of historical events. The seminar not only facilitated academic engagement but also fostered a sense of curiosity and appreciation for the intersection of art, history, and literature.

*[Signature]*  
22.04.23

## THEMATIC SUMMARY OF THE MAIN SPEECH ON PARTITION COMICS

### INTRODUCTION:

The seminar on Partition Comics witnessed a captivating and illuminating main speech delivered by the distinguished Professor Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta. His discourse unfolded a multifaceted exploration of the thematic richness embedded in the world of partition comics. As an eminent scholar in the field of English literature, Dr. Thakurta provided valuable insights into the unique narrative potential of comics in depicting the intricacies and emotional landscape of the partition of India.

### UNDERSTANDING COMICS AS HISTORICAL NARRATIVES:

Dr. Thakurta commenced his speech by elucidating the evolution of comics as a powerful medium for historical storytelling. He underscored that comics are not merely a form of entertainment but a nuanced art form capable of conveying complex narratives. The juxtaposition of images and text in comics creates a unique language that enables the representation of historical events with depth and emotional resonance.

### VISUAL STORYTELLING AND EMOTIVE POWER:

A central theme of Dr. Thakurta's discourse revolved around the emotive power of visual storytelling in partition comics. He emphasized that the combination of images and words serves as a potent tool to evoke emotions, providing readers with a visceral experience of the trauma, sorrow, and resilience embedded in the partition narratives. Through illustrative examples, he demonstrated how the visual elements in comics transcend linguistic and cultural barriers, making them a universal medium for storytelling.

### INTERPLAY OF ART AND HISTORY:

The professor delved into the symbiotic relationship between art and history within partition comics. He argued that comics, as a visual medium, enable artists to depict the lived experiences of individuals during the partition in ways that traditional texts often struggle to achieve. The interplay of artistic expression and historical accuracy allows comics to capture the essence of the period, offering readers a holistic understanding that goes beyond factual accounts.

### REPRESENTATION OF MARGINALIZED VOICES:

*Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta*  
22.04.23



A key thematic highlight was the representation of marginalized voices in partition comics. Dr. Thakurta illuminated how comics serve as a platform to amplify the voices of those often overlooked in mainstream historical narratives. Through the medium of comics, stories of ordinary people, women, and children who bore the brunt of the partition find a space for expression. This inclusivity, he argued, contributes to a more comprehensive and empathetic portrayal of the partition's impact on diverse communities.

#### NARRATIVE COMPLEXITY AND LAYERED STORYTELLING:

The professor articulated the narrative complexity inherent in partition comics, emphasizing the ability of this medium to present layered storytelling. Comics, he contended, provide a space for intricate narratives that interweave personal stories, political dynamics, and social upheavals. The juxtaposition of multiple perspectives in a visual format allows for a nuanced exploration of the complexities surrounding the partition, inviting readers to engage with the subject matter at various levels.

#### EDUCATIONAL POTENTIAL AND PEDAGOGICAL VALUE:

Another significant theme was the educational potential and pedagogical value of partition comics. Dr. Thakurta highlighted that comics offer an engaging and accessible entry point for students to delve into historical events. The visual nature of comics, he argued, fosters visual literacy and critical thinking skills. Incorporating comics into educational curricula, he suggested, can enhance students' historical understanding and encourage a more empathetic approach towards the study of the partition.

#### CHALLENGES AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

In addressing the thematic landscape of partition comics, Dr. Thakurta acknowledged the challenges and ethical considerations inherent in depicting sensitive historical events. He discussed the responsibility of artists and writers to approach the partition with sensitivity, avoiding stereotypes and sensationalism. While celebrating the potential of comics, he underscored the need for ethical storytelling that respects the dignity of the individuals whose stories are being represented.

#### CONCLUSION:

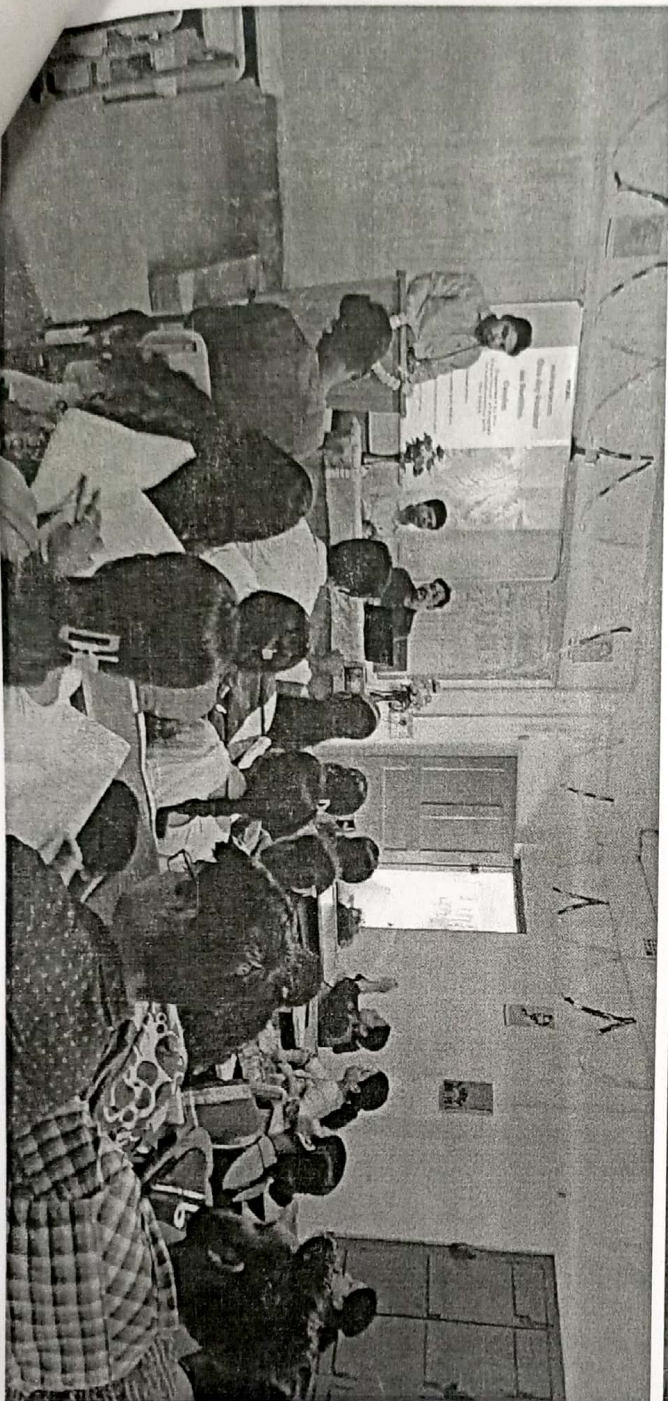
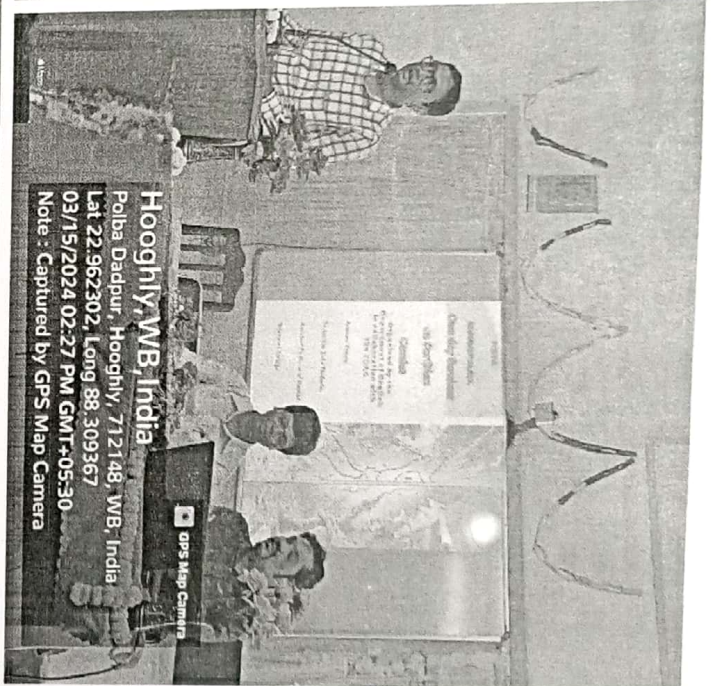
Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta's main speech on partition comics was a tour de force, weaving together themes of visual storytelling, historical representation, and educational significance. His discourse illuminated the transformative potential of comics in narrating the complex history of the partition of India. By exploring the emotive power, inclusivity, and narrative complexity of partition comics, Dr. Thakurta invited the audience to reconsider the ways in which history can be communicated and

*Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta*  
22.04.23

understood. The thematic richness of his speech contributes significantly to the ongoing dialogue on the intersection of art, history, and literature in the realm of partition narratives.

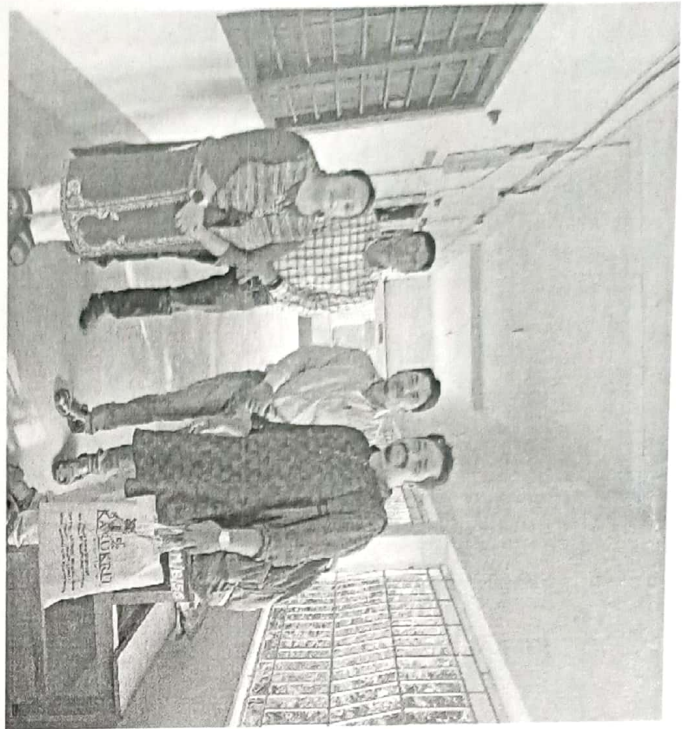
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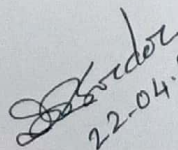


## Bill

Received Rs.1,000/- (Rupees One Thousand only) from Polba Mahavidyalaya as Honorarium for attending Seminar as Resource Person organized by the Dept. of English and IQAC, Polba Mahavidyalaya on 12-04-2023.

Full Name : Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta

Signature :  12.04.2023.

  
22-04-23



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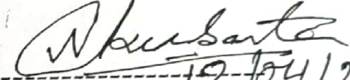
## To whom it may concern

This is to certify that Dr. Anirban Guha Thakurta, Assistant Professor in English, Serampore College, West Bengal, delivered a lecture titled '*Partition Comics*' on 12.04.2023 in a one day seminar held at Polba Mahavidyalaya as a distinguished resource person.


We appreciate his adept articulation and profound knowledge, which not only enriched the young minds of those present but also left a profound and lasting impression. We are grateful for his painstaking efforts in enhancing the standard of education at our institution.

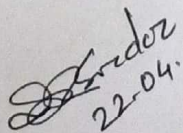
We express our gratitude to his affiliating institution for facilitating the programme.



  
12/04/2023.  
(Narugopal Kaibarta)

Teacher in Charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Polba, Hooghly, West Bengal

Received  
with  
Thank  
  
15.03.2024.

  
22-04-23



## SEMINAR OBJECTIVES

### PARTITION COMICS

#### OBJECTIVES:

##### EXPLORATION OF HISTORICAL NARRATIVES:

- Examine how partition comics serve as a medium for portraying historical events, particularly the partition of India in 1947.
- Analyze how comics contribute to shaping public understanding and memory of historical occurrences.

##### LITERARY AND ARTISTIC ANALYSIS:

- Delve into the literary and artistic elements employed in partition comics.
- Discuss the use of visual storytelling, symbolism, and narrative techniques in conveying the emotional and psychological impact of partition.

##### CULTURAL REPRESENTATION:

- Explore how partition comics represent the diverse cultural facets affected by the partition.
- Discuss the portrayal of different communities, languages, and traditions in the context of the partition experience.

##### IMPACT ON EDUCATION:

- Assess the educational value of partition comics in schools and universities.
- Discuss the potential of comics as educational tools for teaching history, literature, and social studies, emphasizing their accessibility and engagement for students.

##### INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES:

- Encourage interdisciplinary discussions by inviting scholars from fields such as history, literature, art, and cultural studies.
- Explore how various academic disciplines can collaborate in understanding the multifaceted aspects of partition comics.

##### GLOBAL CONTEXT:

- Examine the reception and impact of partition comics on a global scale.
- Explore how these comics contribute to international conversations on themes such as migration, displacement, and identity.

##### ENGAGEMENT WITH CONTEMPORARY ISSUES:

*Dr. J. K. Singh*  
22.04.23

- Discuss how partition comics can shed light on contemporary issues related to borders, migration, and cultural conflicts.
- Explore the relevance of the partition narrative in addressing present-day challenges and fostering cross-cultural understanding.

#### DIALOGUE WITH CREATORS:

Provide a platform for creators of partition comics to share their experiences and insights.

Facilitate a dialogue between creators, scholars, and the audience to gain a deeper understanding of the creative process and the intentions behind these works.

#### AUDIENCE INTERACTION AND PARTICIPATION:

- Foster an interactive environment where participants can engage in discussions, ask questions, and share their perspectives.
- Encourage audience members to critically evaluate and reflect on the themes presented during the seminar.

#### PUBLICATION AND DOCUMENTATION:

- Explore possibilities for publishing the proceedings of the seminar, ensuring that the insights and discussions are accessible to a wider audience.
- Document the seminar's outcomes to contribute to ongoing academic and public conversations on partition, comics, and cultural representation.

The seminar aims to provide a comprehensive platform for academic exploration, critical analysis, and constructive dialogue surrounding the intersection of partition history and the medium of comics.

*Dr. G. S. Grewal*  
22.04.23