

DECEMBER 2018

VOLUME 9

ISSN 2319 - 4189

DIOTIMA'S

A JOURNAL OF NEW READINGS



Mythopoesis: Reconstructing Subjugated Knowledges

Peer Reviewed Journal

Published by

THE POSTGRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
PROVIDENCE WOMEN'S COLLEGE
KOZHIKODE – 673 009
KERALA
(Affiliated to the University of Calicut)

DECEMBER 2018

VOLUME 9

DIOTIMA'S

A JOURNAL OF NEW READINGS



Mythopoesis: Reconstructing Subjugated Knowledges

Peer Reviewed Journal

Published by

THE POSTGRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
PROVIDENCE WOMEN'S COLLEGE
KOZHIKODE – 673 009
KERALA

(Affiliated to the University of Calicut)

web: <https://www.pwcenglish.com/diotimas-a-journal-of-new-readings/>

BOARD OF ADVISERS

Dr. Jaseena Joseph (Sr. Ashmitha A.C.)
Principal, Providence Women's College

Dr. Janaky Sreedharan
Professor, Department of English, University of Calicut

Dr. S.Nagesh
Associate Professor (Retd.), Research Department of English
St. Joseph's College
Devagiri, Kozhikode

Dr. N. Sajan
Associate Professor, Research Department of English
S.N. College, Kannur

Dr. M.V. Suma
Asst. Professor, Department of English
Govt. College, Kodencheri

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor
Shyama E., HOD Dept. of English

Editor
Dr. Shanthi Vijayan

Members

Leeji Francis
Ramani C.E.
Bindu Amat
Dr. Surya K.

Dr. Aparna Nandakumar
Elizabeth Antony
Preethy Mary George
Chitra Sebastian

CONTENT

December 2018

Volume 9

INTRODUCTION Dr. Shanthi Vijayan	1
RETELLING MYTHS Dr. Janaky Sreedharan	6
THE MYTH OF GENDER ROLES IN FAIRY TALES Rinky Gupta	13
THE GODDESS IN PRE-MODERN KERALA: A FEMINIST ANALYSIS OF THE <i>THEYYAM</i> LEGENDS Dr. Susmitha Ramakrishnan	24
<i>WONDER WOMAN: A COMPASSIONATE SEMI-GODDESS IN CONFLICT WITH WORLD WAR I MOTIVES</i> Neethu Maria Johnson	39
CRITIQUE OF THE UN/KNOWN: ON THE MEDIATION OF THE 'DOMINANT' ANALYSIS Dr. Sanil M. Neelakandan	49
DISCOVERING THE SELF: ARCHETYPAL ELEMENTS IN <i>CHARLIE</i> Alicia Jacob	59
RECONCEPTUALISING INDIAN MYTH IN AMISH TRIPATI'S SHIVA TRILOGY Dr. C. Bhooma	69
THE VOICE OF THE <i>LOKAVRITTA</i> IN MAHASWETA DEVI'S <i>AFTER KURUSHETRA</i> Amrutha Modcy	77
<i>MS MILITANCY: MYTH AS A COUNTER NARRATIVE</i> Harsha Vincent	87
UNLEASHING THE 'SUR-REAL': MYTHOPOETIC IMAGINATION IN SALMAN RUSHDIE'S <i>TWO YEARS EIGHT MONTHS AND TWENTY-EIGHT NIGHTS</i> Anila Mohan	100
<i>EXTANT</i> Shivangi Shanker K.	108
<i>THE PERIOD WHEN SHE LEAVES</i> Shivshankar Rajmohan A.K.	109

THE GODDESS IN PRE-MODERN KERALA: A FEMINIST ANALYSIS OF THE *THEYYAM* LEGENDS

DR. SUSMITHA RAMAKRISHNAN

Through this paper an attempt is made to analyze the status of women in pre-modern Kerala as evident from the popular *Theyyam* cult¹. Since the conventional sources of History like inscriptions, manuscripts etc. are silent on the status of women, there is a need to analyze other sources like myths and legends that reveal the milieu of a pre-modern age. Among the numerous *Theyyam* forms, the Goddess is very popular as a deity. She is worshipped as the family deity, as the guardian of the village, and also as the protector from dangerous diseases.

By investigating into the verbal and literary traces of the *Theyyam* tradition, legends, ritual performances, artistic depictions and modes of remembrance about the worship of the *Theyyam*, my intention is to create a dialogue between the past and the present and find out how this dialogue in turn constructs a portrayal of the past. The consciousness of the past and its portrayal are as much reflected in the myths and practices of the present day. Many of the ideas taken into consideration here cannot be put under a fixed chronological framework, except that they represent the social category and institutions of pre-modern Kerala. The present enquiry is aimed at an investigation of the pattern of ritual and belief along with their impact on society, in particular on women.