

**SEMINAR NO: 19**

**NAME\_OF THE DEPARTMENT: ENGLISH**

**TITLE OF THE SEMINAR: INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES ON READING CRICKET**

**DATE: 28-11-2020,01-12-2020,03-12-2020&15-12-2020**



**St John's College, Anchal**  
*Mar Gregorios Nagar, Anchal, Kerala, India | Reaccredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade*

The Department of English  
in association with  
IQAC, St John's College

**INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES**  
on  
**"READING CRICKET"**  
November-December 2020

**Session 1**  
28 November 2020, 04:00 PM IST  
**Dr Souvik Naha**  
Assistant Professor (English),  
Department of History,  
Sanford University, MI  
**"Why I am Not a Cricket Historian"**

**Session 2**  
01 December 2020, 04:30 PM IST  
**Dr Claire Westall**  
Senior Lecturer, Department of English and Related Literatures,  
University of York, UK  
**"Reading Politics, Economics and the World-System  
with Cricket's Place in Literature"**

**Session 3**  
03 December 2020, 05:30 PM IST  
**Dr Nissim Mannathukkaren**  
Associate Professor, Department of International Development Studies,  
Dalhousie University, Canada  
**"Nationalism, Capitalism and Social Exclusion: Cricket in India"**

**Session 4**  
15 December 2020, 04:30 PM IST  
**Ramachandra Guha**  
(Public Intellectual and Cricket Historian)  
in Conversation with Dr Rakesh Ramamoorthy

**Topic:**  
Ramachandra Guha's latest book  
**The Commonwealth of Cricket :**  
A History Love Affair with the Most Subtle and Sophisticated Game  
Known to Mankind

Platform:   
For Free Registration, Click Here or Visit the College Website: [www.stjohns.ac.in](http://www.stjohns.ac.in)  
Contact: 9074018556, 9447916126, 9526157547

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
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**C.K. Nayudu, famous for a majestic  
innings of 153 against a visiting  
MCC side in 1926, was India's first  
Test Captain, and arguably the first  
Indian cricketing super star.**

*Decades before the infamous  
Sandpaper incident, there was a  
'vaseline incident' in India in 1977,  
when the English fast bowler John  
Lever was accused of doctoring the  
ball using vaseline*



Guess who has published fascinating scholarly  
essays on both these incidents?  
Our first speaker, Dr. Souvik Naha!



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**Session 2**  
01 December 2020, 04:30 PM IST  
**Dr Claire Westall**  
Senior Lecturer, Department of English and Related Literatures  
University of York, UK  
**"Reading Politics, Economics and the World-System  
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Claire Westall publishes regularly on literature and sport, especially on cricket, and her chapter "Reading Brian Lara and the Traditions of Caribbean Cricket Poetry" is included in the *The Cambridge Companion to Cricket* (2011), edited by Jeff Hill and Anthony Bateman. Her forthcoming monograph is titled *The Rules of Cricket and Caribbean Literature* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2021).

She has published widely on other areas of literature as well. She is the co-author of *The Public on the Public: The British Public as Trust, Reflexivity and Political Foreclosure* (Palgrave, 2015), and the co-editor of three books: *Cross-Generational Literary Voices: Appropriating, Resisting, Embracing* (Palgrave, 2012), *Literature of an Independent England: Revisions of England, Englishness and English Literature* (Palgrave, 2013), and *Prison Writing and the Literary World: Imprisonment, Institutionalization and Questions of Literary Practice* (Routledge, 2020).

Meeting ID: 850 7965 3764  
Passcode: 885766



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**Session 3**  
03 December 2020, 05:30 PM IST  
**Dr Nissim Mannathukkaren**  
Associate Professor, Department of International Development Studies,  
Dalhousie University, Canada  
**"Nationalism, Capitalism and Social Exclusion: Cricket in India"**

Nissim Mannathukkaren's main research interests are focused on left/communist movements, development and democracy, modernity, the politics of popular culture (especially, the politics of mass cultural forms like the media, cinema and sport), and Marxist and postcolonial theories. He is the author of *The Rapture with Memory: Derrida and the Specters that Haunt Marxism* (Navayana, 2006) and his articles have appeared in such prestigious journals as *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, *Dialectical Anthropology*, and *Third World Quarterly*.

His is a significant voice in the debates on cricket in India and he has explored the sport from the perspectives of both caste and class. His widely cited essays on cricket have appeared in *The International Journal of History of Sport* and the *Economic and Political Weekly* as well as in the newspaper *The Hindu*.

Meeting ID: 886 4459 6863  
Passcode: 813056

## **REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR ON ‘READING CRICKET’, NOVEMBER- DECEMBER 2020**

The International webinar series on Reading Cricket was organized by the Department of English in November and December, 2020. Cultural studies of sport is a fascinating area of scholarly enquiry. There is rich body of scholarship on cricketing cultures, inspired by the Caribbean thinker C.L.R. James’ haunting question, “What do they know of cricket who only cricket know?” This webinar series brought together a handful of renowned scholars in an attempt to introduce the audience to the possibilities of reading the world through cricket. The Resource Persons for the sessions were Mr Ramachandra Guha (Historian, Biographer, and Cricket Writer), Mr Nissim Mannathukkaren (Dalhousie University, Canada), Ms Claire Westall (University of York, UK) and Mr Souvik Naha (Durham University, UK)

The virtual platform used for the same was Zoom. An email account [cricketwebinar@gmail.com](mailto:cricketwebinar@gmail.com) was created for the same.

WhatsApp groups with the links: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FHA8yGfOBIF1Lxn6kNWZd> and <https://chat.whatsapp.com/DcdTmaJMDt89U4V4LOjKWa> were created for the registration of participants and to convey important information about the webinar. The zoom codes were emailed to the registered participants the day before the session and also posted in the WhatsApp group.

The detailed schedule of the series is given below:

- Webinar Lecture 1: 28 November 2020, 4 pm IST: Dr Souvik Naha. The joining link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85079653764?pwd=Vno2NHItRmVqdGRVdWo4YThiM3o0UT09>, meeting id: 873 5797 8777 and the passcode 774353.

Topic: “Why I am not a Cricket Historian”

- Webinar Lecture 2: 01 December 2020, 4:30 pm IST: Dr Claire Westall. The Zoom joining link was:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85079653764?pwd=Vno2NHItRmVqdGRVdWo4YThiM3o0UT09>, meeting id: 850 7965 3764 and pass code: 885766.

Topic: “Reading Politics, Economics and the World-System with Cricket’s Place in Literature”

- Webinar Lecture 3: 03 December 2020, 5:30 pm IST: Dr Nissim Mannathukkaren.

The joining link was:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88644596863?pwd=NG1RYnFDdXhKbFZvMEY1TkV4Vmgwdz09>,  
meeting id being: 886 4459 6863 and passcode; 813056

Topic: “Nationalism, Capitalism and Social Exclusion: Cricket in India”

- Webinar Lecture 4: 15 December 2020, 04:30 pm IST: Ramachandra Guha in conversation with Dr Rakesh Ramamoorthy

Topic: Ramachandra Guha’s new book: The Commonwealth of Cricket: A Lifelong Love Affair with the Most Subtle and Sophisticated Game Known to Humankind.

There was YouTube live streaming of the interview, with the link:  
[https://youtu.be/m\\_eOXCcJDoU](https://youtu.be/m_eOXCcJDoU) and the Zoom meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89896703317?pwd=Si8wRm9mbXRhNDFKZ1hhMFVMUm5Ydz09>.

A total of 190 participants had registered for the webinar series. Online Feedback forms were also uploaded after each session.

20 December 2020

Dr. Rakesh R

Coordinator

The event will be held online on Zoom at 04:30 PM on Tuesday, 15 December and it will be simultaneously streamed live on YouTube.

YouTube Live Streaming Link:  
[https://youtu.be/m\\_eOXCJDoU](https://youtu.be/m_eOXCJDoU)

Zoom Meeting Link:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89896703317?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89896703317?pwd=Sl8wRm9mbXRhNDFKZ1hhMFVUM5Yzdz09)  
pwd=Sl8wRm9mbXRhNDFKZ1hhMFVUM5Yzdz09

All are welcome!



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The Department of English & the IQAC  
**INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES**  
on  
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Session 04: 15 December 2020, 04:30 PM IST

A Lifelong Love Affair with the Most Technical and Engaging Sport: Cricket in the Commonwealth  
**THE COMMONWEALTH OF CRICKET**  
RAMACHANDRA GUHA

Ramachandra Guha discusses his new book *The Commonwealth of Cricket* with Dr Rakesh Ramamoorthy

YouTube LIVESTREAM LIVE IQAC followed on ZOOM

For Zoom Codes & the YouTube livestreaming link, please visit the college website: [www.stjohns.ac.in](http://www.stjohns.ac.in)

Please email your questions in [cricketwebinar@gmail.com](mailto:cricketwebinar@gmail.com) by 1 PM on 14/12/2020. Or, just post them live in the Zoom chat box :)

