

**Name of the event** – An Introduction to Postcolonial Theory

**Category-** Extension Lecture

**Organizing Unit** – Department of English, RKSMVV

**Date** – 01.03.2024

**Time** – 12:30 pm

**Venue-** AV Room

**Resource Person** – Dr. Madhuchhanda Mitra, Professor at St. John's University, Minnesota, USA

**Number of Participants** - 17

**Brief Description of the Event** – The Department of English organised an extension lecture in two parts for the undergraduate students of semester IV and VI on 28th February and 1st of March, 2024.

The lecture began with the introduction of the term “Postcolonialism” followed by a brief discussion of the history of European colonization. The lecture explored Karl Marx’s theory of colonialism and the critical perspectives of two eminent figures of Negritude movement Aimé Césaire and Frantz Fanon. The lecture also included a thorough elucidation of some of the significant theoretical terms, such as – Imperialism/Empire, Decolonization, Anti-colonialism and Neocolonialism.

On the second day of the lecture, some excerpts from the Introduction of *Orientalism* by Edward Said was shared to explain the students the power of language and the differences between the imaginary East and West. The lecture also focused on some of the distinguished theorists and their critical works such as Gramsci and Althusser and their different critical concepts of hegemony. The lecture concluded with a brief reference to Gayatri Chakravarty Spivak’s essay on “Can the Subaltern speak?” and a brief discussion on Bhabha’s mimicry.

**Outcome** – The lecture has been productive since the students participated actively after the lecture regarding their queries. It would immensely help them to prepare the particular sections of their curriculum for their upcoming exams.

