

**Report
on
Special Lecture
Organized on 22nd February, 2023 by Dept. of English, DAV PG College,
Varanasi**

On 22nd February, 2023, the Department of English DAV PG College organised two lectures for the students of PG. Professor P. Dalai from the Department of English, BHU, Varanasi and Dr. Saurbah Kumar Singh from the Department of English, Vasanta College for Women, Rajghat, Varanasi were invited to deliver their talks. Prof. Panchanan Dalai from BHU made very relevant observations on the Duchess of Malfi. He stressed the idea that during 17th Century in England the constraints of patriarchy was so rigid that women were treated as objects having no will of their own but the protagonist of the play *Duchess of Malfi* breaks the shackles and tries to assert her sexuality by marrying her steward, Antonio for which the two Argonian brothers takes revenge upon her by taking her into custody keeping her in the midst of mad and finally strangling her to death. This shows the chauvinistic approach of the brothers and the cruelty done to women by men. Their subjugation and marginalization make the reader empathize with her.

Dr Saurbah delivered his talk on T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*. He highlighted the mythical method, symbolism, imagery and minimalistic technique used by Eliot in his magnum opus. Eliot has tried to make a comparison between past and present and concludes that problem as common phenomenon across the ages but in ancient times people made efforts to resolve problems, but in the contemporary age, people are inactive and they are in love with material possession so much so that they have forgotten the real purpose of life. This attitude is fatal. If they want to have peace and understanding, they will have to follow the three da's as stressed in the Indian Scriptures, *Brihadaranyak Upnishad*.