

November 30, 2022

Press Release

JMI organizes Extension Lecture: Abhay K. on “The Various Bihar!”

The Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), organized an Extension Lecture by Abhay K on “The Various Bihar!”. This was the first offline Extension Lecture organized in the year. Abhay K is a poet, diplomat, editor and translator, with over a dozen books of poetry including *Monsoon* (Sahitya Akademi). His latest book is *The Book of Bihari Literature* by Harper Collins India. He is a recipient of SAARC Literature Award 2013.

Abhay K's *The Book of Bihari Literature*, is a brilliant compendium of delightful and valuable stories, poetry and essays, in languages as plural as Bihar itself.

Although this collection is only a tableau of the plethora of literature from Bihar, yet it is an exceptional, unparalleled, and unprecedented endeavour to include not only the writings from the Bihari diaspora but also the texts that were presumably inaccessible, written in various languages such as Urdu, Farsi, Sanskrit, and English but especially in those that are indigenous to Bihar such as Bhojpuri, Magahi, Maithli and Pali. Many texts in the book have been translated and published for the first time ever.

The collection includes texts from many well known and award winning writers such as Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, Tabish Khair and Abdus Samad, and also lesser-known writers such as Heera Dom.

Abhay K. began the talk by reading out his poem that he wrote in 2020 while attempting to write a ghazal in Magahi, “*Surprised to learn that there is no written poem in Magahi, / I run here and there, then sit down to write a poem in Magahi...At home I hear my mother say her prayers in Magahi, / hamar betake buddhi dehu bhagwan, he wants to write a poem in Magahi.*”

And then he moved on to reading a few poems such as those by Sumangalamata and Mutta, and discussions on other texts. The talk ended on a contemplating note with him reciting his poem *The Rise of Nalanda*, a poem about the repercussions of the end of universities.

There was an electrifying round of discussions on Bihar, its cultural prestige and the identity of being a Bihari. The question and answer session was as enriching as the talk by Abhay K. Faculty members as well as students asked engaging as well as insightful questions.



Department of English
Jyotiba Phule Mahavidyalaya
New Erandol, 401212

INVITES YOU TO AN EXTERIOR LECTURE ON
THE VARIOUS ROLES

03:00 PM TO 04:00 PM

SEMINAR HALL, DEPT OF ENGLISH



Department of English
Jamia Millia Islamia
New Delhi- 110025

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INVITES YOU TO AN EXTENSION LECTURE ON

THE VARIOUS BIHAR!

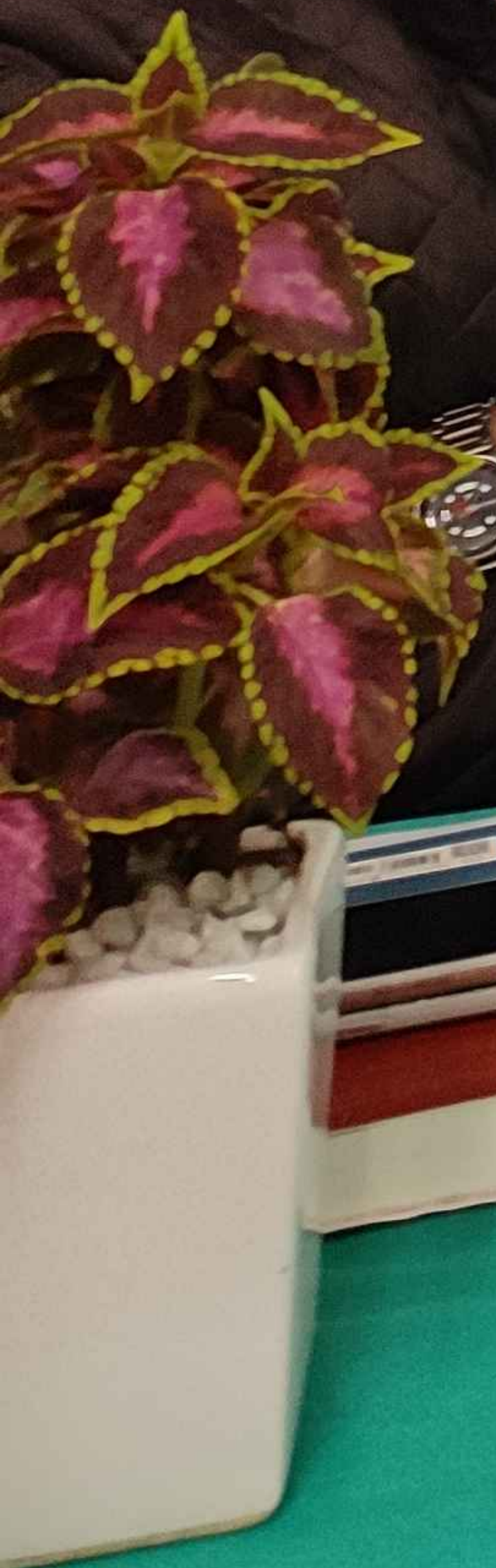
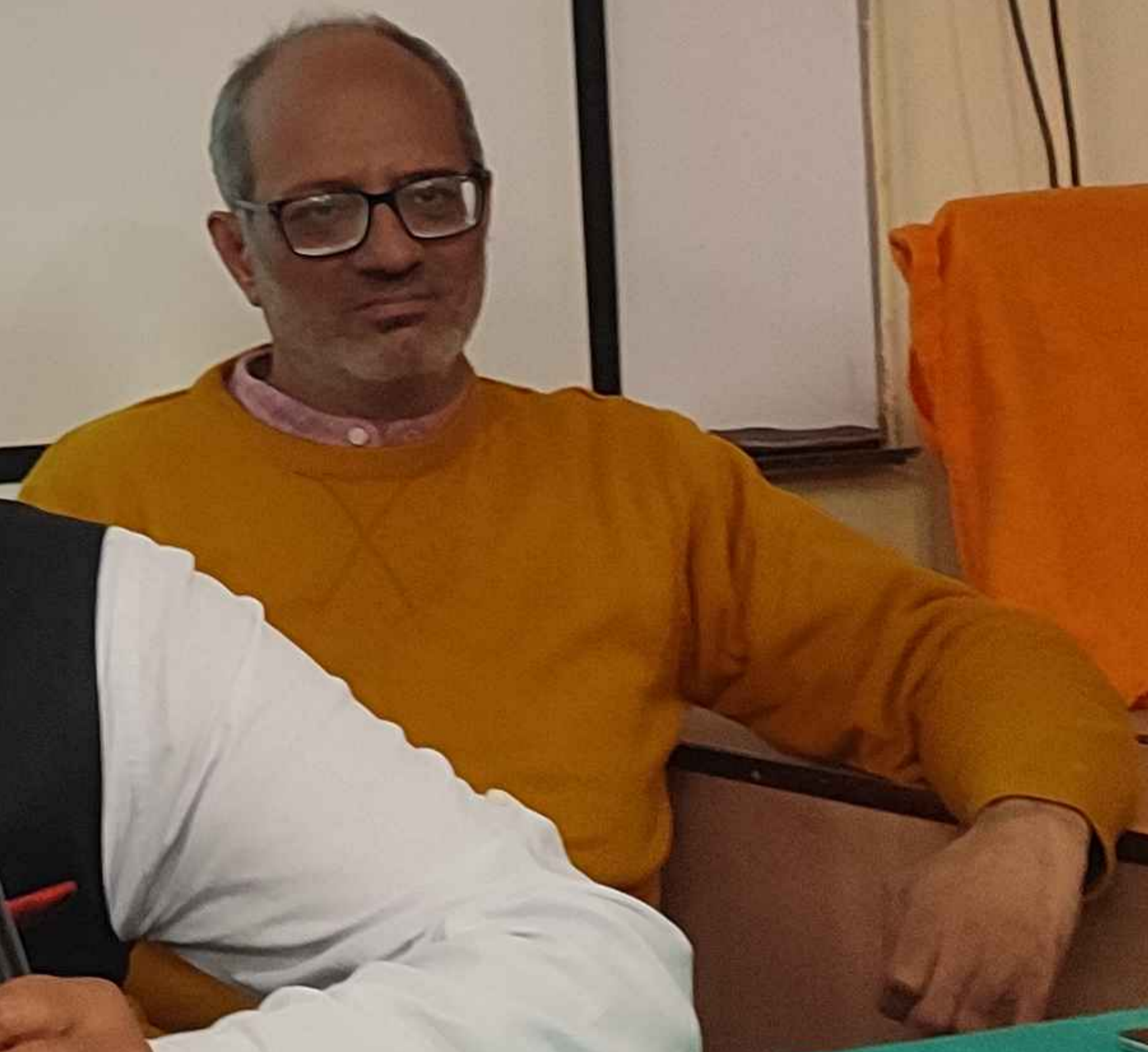
TUESDAY, 29 NOV
03:00 PM TO 04:00 PM

Venue
SEMINAR HALL, DEPT OF ENGLISH

SPEAKER
ABHAY K.

Abhay K. is a poet, diplomat, editor and translator. He is the author of 12 fiction poetry books including *Musings* (Sahitya Akademi) and the editor *The Book of Bihar: Literary Discoveries* (India). He received the SAARC Literature Award 2015. His poem 'Sathi Ashram' has been translated into over 100 languages.

Prof. Simi Mishra (HOD)
Email: simi@jamia.ac.in





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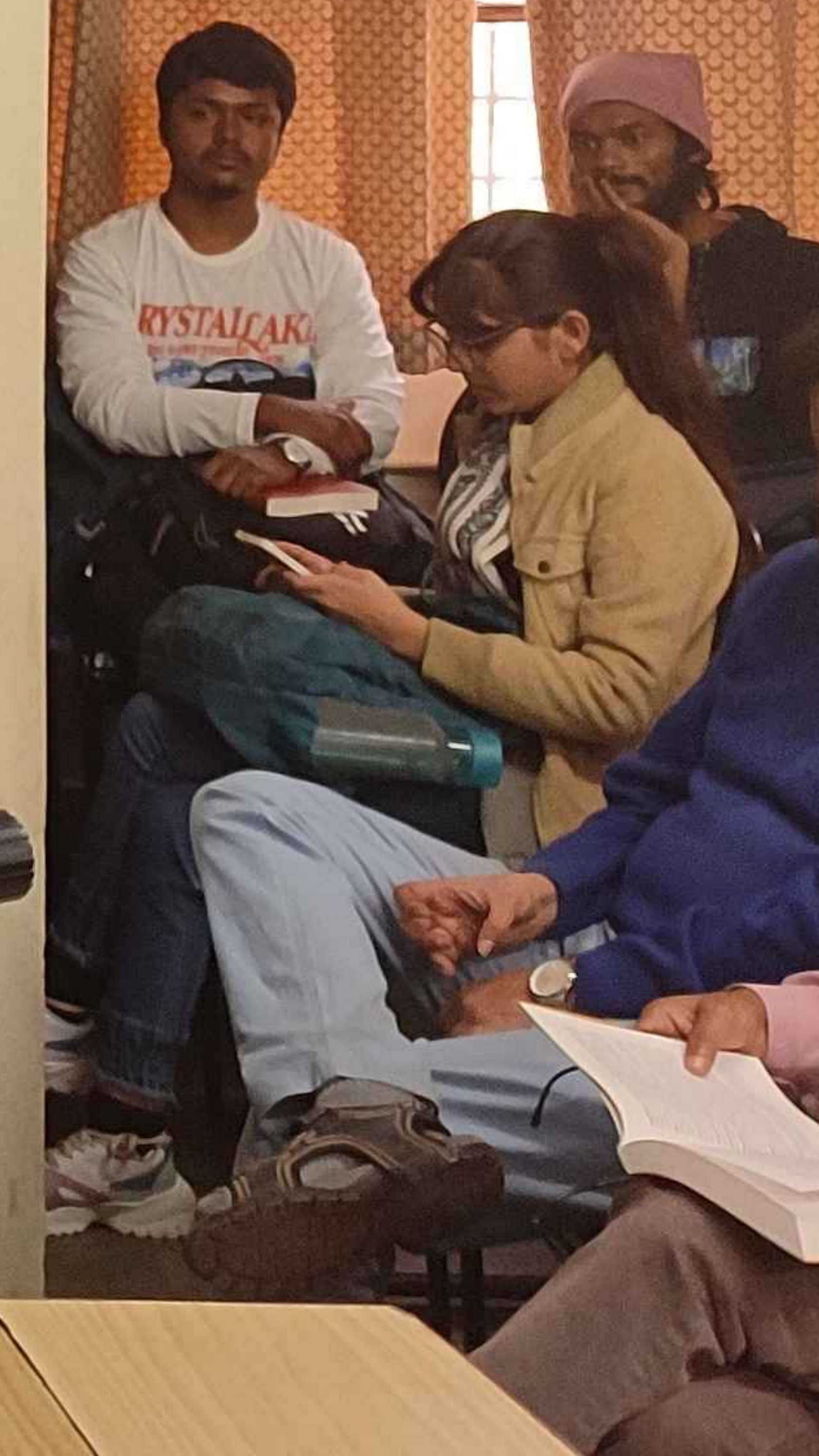
YOU TO AN EXTENSION LECTURE ON
VARIOUS BIHAR!

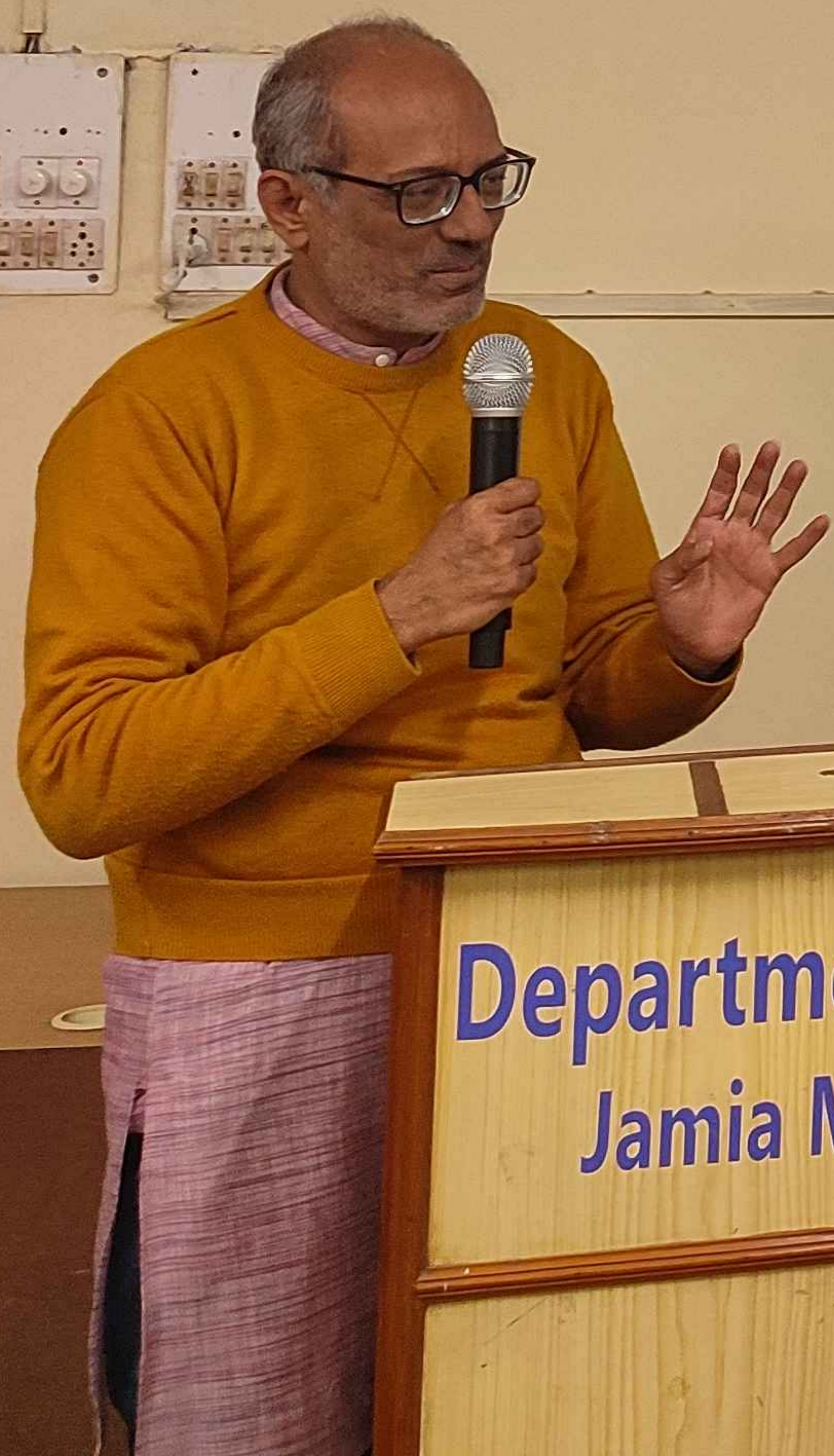
TUESDAY, 29 NOV
10 PM TO 04:00 PM

Venue
Lecture Hall, DEPT OF ENGLISH

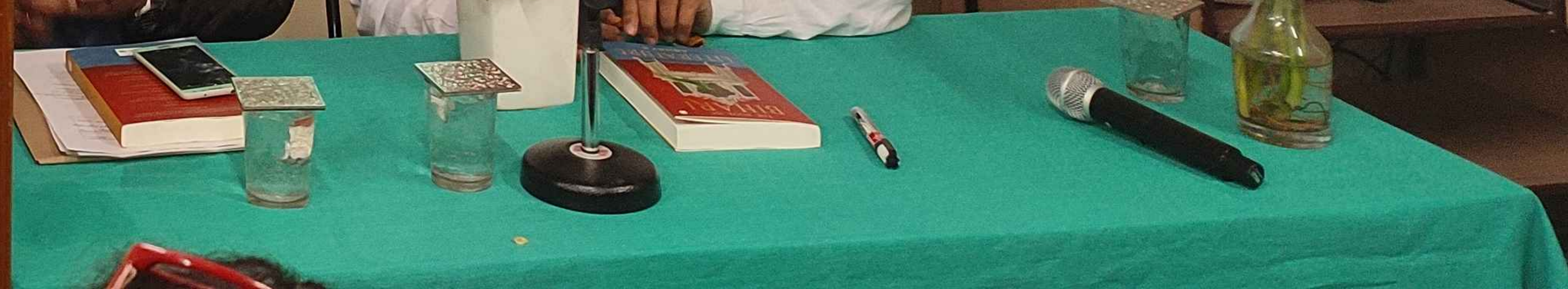
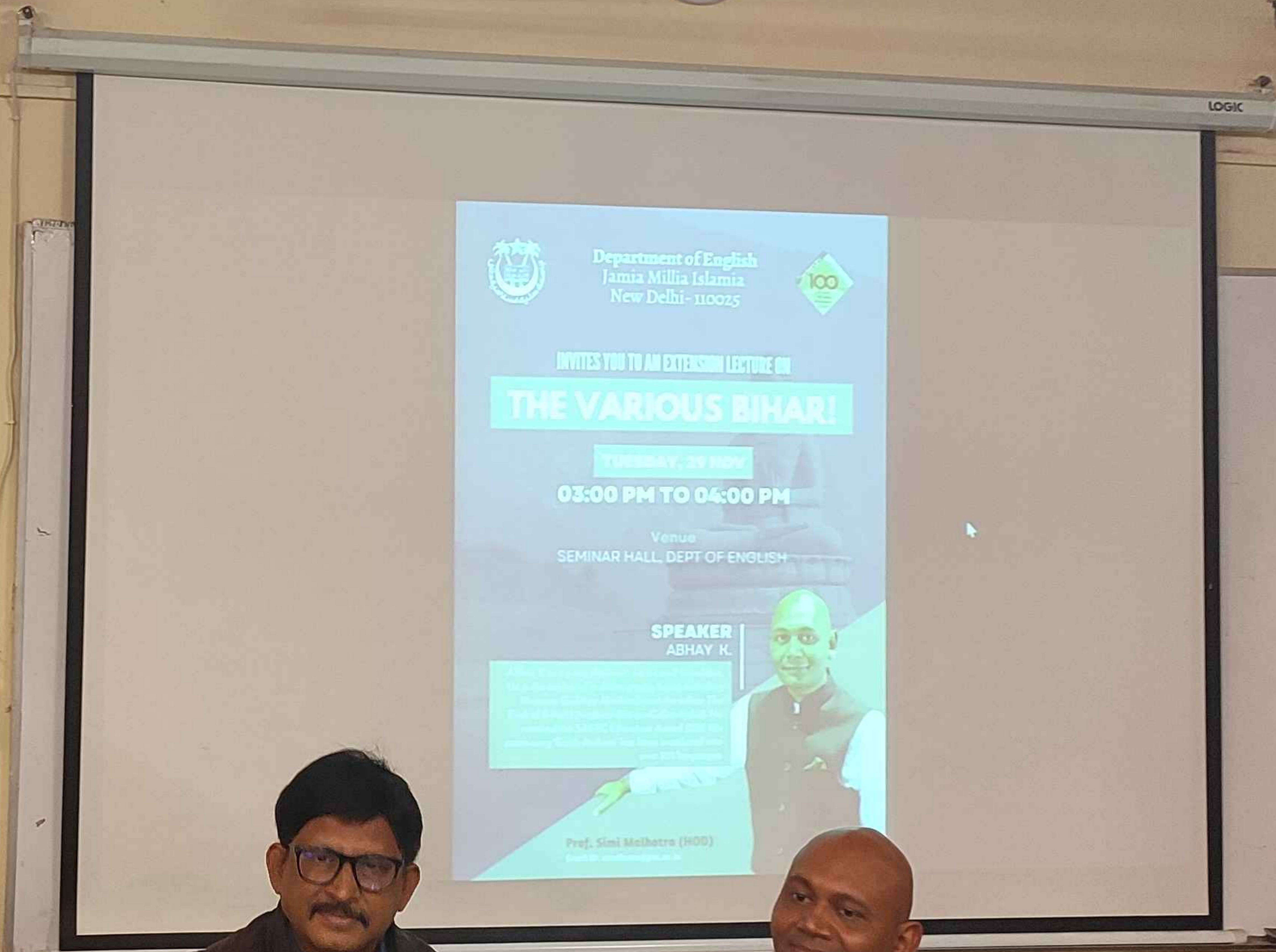
SPEAKER
ABHAY K.

Diplomat, editor and translator
of Indian poetry books including
The Akash and the editor The
ARC Literature Award 2013. His
poems have been translated into
over 150 languages.





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