

PERFORMANCES LITERATURE TECHNOLOGY

# the Listener: Brahmaputra

Festival of Oral Literature

10th - 12th Feb 2025

Mon / Tue / Wed

The Assam Royal

Global University

The M.V Kohuwa Bon



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the  
**LISTENER**  
**BRAHMAPUTRA**  
*Festival of Oral Literature*

10th - 12th February 2025  
The Assam Royal Global University  
The M.V Kohuwa Bon

**Produced by**

IMASI: The Maharaj Kumari  
Binodini Devi Foundation  
Imphal

**Academic Partner  
and Organiser**

The Assam Royal Global  
University, Guwahati



Day 1 / 10<sup>th</sup> Feb / Mon

# Inauguration Ceremony

AUDITORIUM, BLOCK - E, 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, RGU, ASSAM  
5 PM ONWARDS

## ANCHOR

**Ayushman Devraj**  
Assistant Prof. Dept. of English, RGU

## WELCOME ADDRESS

**Prof. Shiela Bora**, Festival Director

## PALI THERAVADA BUDDHIST PRAYER

**Venerable Moseng Mantaw** and **Venerable Khetseng Singkai**

## LIGHTING OF LAMP AND FELICITATION

**Ambassador Diana Mickevičienė**  
Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania to India  
**Prof. Stephen Morey**  
Associate Professor, La Trobe University, Melbourne  
**Venerable Moseng Mantaw** and **Venerable Khetseng Singkai**  
Theravada Buddhist Monks

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LISTENER: BRAHMAPUTRA

**Mr. L. Somi Roy**  
Producer, The Listener: Brahmaputra

## ADDRESS BY HER EXCELLENCY THE LITHUANIAN AMBASSADOR

**Ambassador Diana Mickevičienė**  
Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania to India

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**Prof. Stephen Morey**  
Associate Professor, La Trobe University, Melbourne

## ADDRESS BY CHIEF GUEST

**Prof. Dr. Y.S.R Murthy**  
Vice Chancellor, RGU

## VOTE OF THANKS

**Sentila T. Yanger**  
Programme Consultant, The Listener: Brahmaputra

## CULTURAL PROGRAMME

The Assam Royal Global University (RGU)  
**anchors:**  
**Sattyaakee D'com Bhuyan**, Deputy Dean, Students Welfare, RGU  
**Banani Das Hazarika**, Assistant Prof. Dept. of English, RGU

## WELCOME DINNER

At the venue



# Day 2 / 11<sup>th</sup> Feb / Tue

AUDITORIUM, BLOCK - E, 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, RGU, ASSAM  
9 AM ONWARDS



## Morning

ANCHOR	<b>Dr. Jasmine A. Choudhury</b> Assistant Prof. Dept. of English, RGU
9 am - 9:30 am	<b>Welcome Address</b> <b>Prof. Shiela Bora</b> , Festival Director
	<b>Felicitations of Guests</b>
	<b>Address by Academic Chairperson</b> <b>Prof. A.K. Buragohain</b> , RGU, Assam
	<b>Remarks by Guests</b>
SESSION 1 9:30 am - 10:15 am	<b>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:</b> <b>Tales of the Brahmaputra</b> <b>Sanjoy Hazarika</b> , Presenter <b>Rakhee Kalita Moral</b> , Moderator Prof. and Head, Dept. of English Cotton University,
SESSION 2 10:15 am - 11 am	<b>THE CORSAL ARCHIVE</b> Documentation and Digital Archiving with Book Launch: Binodini's Crimson Rain Clouds: A Learning Module (Publisher, CoRSAL, 2024) Digital Documentation and Archiving of The Listener at CoRSAL, University of North Texas, Denton, and Indiana University <b>Prof. Shobhana Chelliah</b> , Indiana University <b>Kellen Parker van Dam &amp; Arun Sharma</b> , Discussants
ANCHOR	<b>Sania Wahid</b> Assistant Prof. Dept. of English, RGU
SESSION 3 11 am - 11:45 am	<b>JHUM CULTIVATION AND WEDDING RITUALS OF THE KARBI</b> <b>Deuri Rongpi and Group</b> , Presenters <b>Dr. Stuti Goswami</b> , Moderator Associate Prof. Dept. of English, RGU
CONCURRENT WORKSHOP 11am - 12 noon	<b>STORYTELLING WORKSHOP</b> <b>Workshop by Lithuanian storyteller</b> <b>Milda Varnauskaitė</b> <b>Venue:</b> Dept. of English, Block - GH 1, RGU Organized by the Dept. of English, RGU
11:45 am - 12 noon	<b>TEA BREAK</b>

# Day 2 / 11<sup>th</sup> Feb / Tue



## Afternoon

- 
- SESSION 4  
12 noon – 12:45 pm
- REDISCOVERING NIHAR BARUA**  
India's pioneering ethnomusicologist from Assam, with archival recordings of songs, film, photographs and Goalparia songs  
**Rishi Barua** in conversation with **Saumya Chakravarti**  
**Dr. Stuti Goswami**, Discussant  
Associate Prof. Dept. of English, RGU
- 
- 12:45 pm – 1:30 pm
- LUNCH**
- 
- ANCHOR  
**Dr. Pompi Basumatary**  
Assistant Prof. Dept. of English, RGU
- 
- SESSION 5  
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm
- STORYTELLING BY MILDA VARNAUSKAITĖ**  
Historical and contemporary storytelling from Lithuania  
**Ayushman Devraj**, Discussant  
Assistant Prof. Dept. of English, RGU
- 
- SESSION 6  
2:15 pm – 3 pm
- MAHABHARATA STORYTELLING FROM MANIPUR**  
An episode from the Mahabharata in traditional Manipuri Wari Liba style  
**Takhellambam Shyamkanhai Singh**, Storyteller  
**L. Somi Roy**, Discussant
- 
- CONCURRENT WORKSHOP  
2 pm – 3:30 pm
- ARTS WORKSHOP CONDUCTED BY DHIRAJ RABHA**  
Workshop with video and photo projection  
Organised by Department of Fine Arts, RGU  
**Venue:** Studio, Dept. of Fine Arts, Block - C, RGU, Assam
- 
- 2:15 pm – 3 pm
- TEA BREAK**
- 
- SESSION 7  
3:15 pm – 4 pm
- SARNA PRAYER SONGS OF THE ORAON**  
Recitation of Prayers and Prayer songs of the Sarna religion in the Kurukh Language  
**Prabodh Toppo**, with **Manisha Xalxo**, **Augustin Lakra**, and **Ramu Kashyap**, Presenters  
**Dr. Stuti Goswami**, Discussant  
Associate Prof. Dept. of English, RGU
- 
- SESSION 8  
4 pm – 4:45 pm
- ACCEPTANCE AND BELONGING**  
With Book Launch  
But I am One of You, Northeast India and the Struggle to Belong  
(Edited by Samrat Choudhury, Preeti Gill; Harper Collins 2024)  
**Preeti Gill**, Presenter  
**Sanjoy Hazarika & Gilson Carvalho** Discussants
- 
- 4:45 pm – 6:30 pm
- Optional tour of University Museum and Campus
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**Day 3 / 12<sup>th</sup> Feb / Wed**

## **Cruise on the M.V Kohuwa Bon**

(Limited Seating. Subject to availability  
Contact 8811003151)

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### **Board & Registration**

VENUE : Lachit Ghat, Fancy Bazaar

TIME : 8:45 am – 9 am

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### **Morning**

ANCHORS

**Ayushman Devraj,**

Assistant Prof. Dept. of English, RGU

& **Dr. Dhiraj Borkotoky,**

Associate Prof. Dept. of Political Science, RGU

SESSION 1  
9 am – 9:45 am

**PALI PRAYERS OF THERAVADA BUDDHISM**

Prayers and Rituals of the Singpho Buddhists of  
Arunachal Pradesh

**Venerable Moseng Mantaw** and **Venerable Khetseng  
Singkai,** Presenters

**Stephen Morey,** Discussant

SESSION 2  
9:45 am - 10:30 am

**BODO STORYTELLING**

Folklore from Bodoland

**Dr. Pompi Basumatary,** Presenter

Assistant Prof. Dept. of English, RGU

**Dr. Stuti Goswami,** Discussant

Associate Prof. Dept. of English, RGU

SESSION 3  
10:30 am – 11:15 am

**SINGPHO LAIKA**

With Tea Tasting of the Original Handmade Singpho Tea

**Jahumroy Singpho,** Presenter

**Kellen Parker van Dam,** Discussant

SESSION 4  
11:15 am – 12 noon

**ONGARI: STORIES FROM MY MOTHER**

The Visualisation of Memory

**Dhiraj Rabha,** Artist and Presenter

**Rishi Barua,** Discussant

12 noon – 1 pm

**LUNCH**


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# Day 3 / 12<sup>th</sup> Feb / Wed



## Afternoon

- 
- SESSION 5  
1 pm – 1:45 pm
- STORYTELLING FROM EAST AND WEST**  
Conversation between **Milda Varnauskaitė** and **Takhellambam Shyamkanhai Singh** on the traditions of storytelling in Lithuania and Manipur  
**Ambassador Diana Mickevičienė**, Moderator
- 
- SESSION 6  
1:45 pm - 3 pm
- TECHNOLOGY OF ORALITY**  
From Print to Digital Technology  
Prospects and potential of oral literature and digital technology.  
Case Study: Binodini's Crimson Rainclouds: A Learning Module  
**Divija Rajkhowa, Preeti Gill, and L. Somi Roy**, Discussants
- 
- SESSION 7  
3 pm – 4:30 pm
- VALEDICTORY MONITORING AND EVALUATION ROUNDTABLE**  
Presentation of Reports by Rapporteurs  
**Prof. Shiela Bora, Sanjoy Hazarika, Prof. Stephen Morey, Kellen Parker van Dam, Arun Sharma, L. Somi Roy, Gilson Carvalho, and Sanjeev Behari**  
**Atul Dev Sharma**, Moderator
- 
- 4:30 pm
- VOTE OF THANKS**  
**Banani Das Hazarika**, Festival co-ordinator
- 
- 5:30 pm
- Dock at Lachit Ghat**
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## The Team

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  <b>DR. SHIELA BORA</b><br><i>Festival Director</i>         |  <b>L. SOMI ROY</b><br><i>Producer</i>                          |  <b>SENTILA YANGER</b><br><i>Program Consultant</i>       |
|  <b>BANANI DAS HAZARIKA</b><br><i>Festival co-ordinator</i> |  <b>ATUL DEV SARMAH</b><br><i>Fiscal Partner</i>                |  <b>SANJEEV BEHARI</b><br><i>Sponsorship Consultant</i>   |
|  <b>PRAJAYEETA KASHYAP</b><br><i>Outreach</i>               |  <b>DR. JASMINE A. CHOUDHURY</b><br><i>Sessions Coordinator</i> |  <b>NABARUN PAUL</b><br><i>Imasi Operations</i>           |
|  <b>ARCHITA NONGTHOMBAM</b><br><i>Archives</i>              |  <b>SASANKA BARUA</b><br><i>Technical</i>                       |  <b>DR. BAISHALEE RAJKHOWA</b><br><i>Stage Management</i> |
|  <b>MANOJ SARMA</b><br><i>Transportation</i>                |  <b>PIYUSH GUPTA</b><br><i>Food</i>                             |  <b>SOMIRAN BURAGOHAIN</b><br><i>Accommodations</i>       |

PRODUCER



ACADEMIC PARTNER  
& ORGANISER



FISCAL PARTNER



COLLABORATORS



EMBASSY  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA  
TO THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

SPONSORS



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