

Prof. (Dr) Ram Narayan Panda, at present Professor & Head, Postgraduate Department of English, Berhampur University, is among the leading teachers of English Literature in Odisha today.

As a creative writer, he has published innumerable poems in journals of repute both in Odia and English. He is in fact a very popular short story writer in Odia having published nearly fifty short stories in different weeklies, magazines and journals. Many of his short stories have also been translated into Hindi and English and published in reputed journals. The first volume of his poems in English titled *A Long Sigh of Silence* was published by Authors Press, New Delhi in 2014.



An anthology of poems in English titled *Magic Casements* (Macmillan India, 2007, Trinity Press, 2014), edited by him, is being currently taught in different Indian Universities. His new book as a co-editor, published by Oxford University Press, titled *The Widening Gyre*, has been prescribed for graduate courses. He has published many reflective/philosophical treatises under “The Speaking Tree” columns of *The Times of India*.

Many of his articles, covering different branches of literature and critical theory, have been published in journals of great repute in India and abroad such as *The Explicator*, published from Washington D.C., USA.

Prof. Panda has served Berhampur university in many capacities: Head of the Department of English, Dean, Faculty of Arts, and Director, Centre for Canadian Studies, Berhampur University, to name a few.

Prof. Panda was awarded Ph.D. from the Utkal University for his work on the famous American dramatist Tennessee Williams. His Ph.D. thesis was published in the form of a book by VDM Publications, Germany in 2011 with a foreword by John Russell Brown, Professor of Theatre, University of Michigan, USA, undisputedly the *numero uno* drama critic in the world today.

Prof. Panda had developed expertise in many areas: Critical theory, modern literature, American Drama, creative writing, Canadian studies, and Indian Literature. His first collection of short stories in Odia titled “Antaray” is due for release next month. As an amateur stage actor, acted in 25 plays in Odia and English. He has directed 7 plays in Odia and English. He authored three skits in English and wrote the story for Odia film titled My Love story directed by Deepak Panda starring Bollywood heroine Riya Sen.

At present, Prof Panda continues to be Chairman, Board of Studies in English, Berhampur University and Director, Center for Canadian Studies, Berhampur University.