

## *Editorial Note*

Volume 12 of *Crossings* upholds the journal's commitment to rigorous scholarship. Over the last "era," the peer-reviewed journal has offered a platform for critical dialogue and debate, participated in by both eminent and emerging scholars. The previously published volumes show how English Studies has evolved in the last decade or so. The connectivity and mobility of scholarship, thanks to the growth in technology, have further impacted the change. Twelve years ago, we started as a local journal, and now we can claim to be a truly international open-access journal as reflected by our editorial board and contributors.

It has been the journal's policy to publish articles on different issues in contemporary criticism and culture without any particular bias. The scope developed is enterprising as we incorporate topics on language, linguistics, literature, and cultural studies while the occasional papers allow us to incorporate interesting discourse not necessarily laden with academic jargon.

In this volume, Prof. Ian Almond's talk given at ULAB is featured as an occasional paper. Prof. Almond reflects on the hotel as a site of stories with a particular focus on the "political, psychological, and existential" implications of hotel narratives to remind us of an experiential reality that we often take for granted.

The literature and cultural studies section critically engages with both cutting-edge thought and traditional ideas. Topics range from the film trilogy *The Matrix* to Naya scroll printing in India; Emily Dickinson's negotiations of patriarchal expectations in the nineteenth century to the abolition of gender in speculative fiction; the "still activism" in the indigenous narratives of North America to the tribal resistance to State oppression in India; tracing Bengal in East Africa through the avant-gardist experiments in the 1960s to locating Keatsian Romanticism in our national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam; from domicile loci of a homemaker in Ismat Chughtai's novels to the docile representation of women in young adult fiction. The current discussion on biopolitics and eco-concerns permeate the volume with textual analysis. The section truly represents the changing paradigm of English Studies and subconsciously captures the essence of world literature.

The language section includes a careful semiotic analysis of Bangladeshi TV programs, an insightful piece on the loan words in the Saharan language Kanuri as well as skill-based teaching in a Bangladeshi classroom.

The book reviews introduce us to the short stories of Shakti Ghosh and a festschrift published on Prof. Amritjit Singh.

We welcome your feedback on the journal for its overall improvement.

On behalf of the Editorial Board,

**Shamsad Mortuza, PhD**

Editor