



**CoHaB Indian Diaspora Centre
University of Mumbai**

Lecture Series 2019-2020

Lecture on

Feats of Survival: Refugee Writing and the Ethics of Representation

By Professor Janet Wilson , Northampton University, U.K.

Saturday 16th February 2019

12.30 – 1.30 p.m.

This lecture will examine questions concerning the politics of representation and reception involved in the reading and interpretation of refugee narratives. It will focus on strategies taken by authors, translators and editors to negotiate the ethical issues inherent in representing refugee voices especially when subject to intervention and mediation. I argue that the construction of readers in the text and the inclusion of real life audiences in its paratexts help reposition refugee narratives beyond the genres of documentary and auto/biography, so widening the horizons of readers' expectation.

BIO-Note:

Janet Wilson is Professor of English and Postcolonial Studies at the University of Northampton, UK. Her research interests are in the writing and cinema of the white settler societies of New Zealand and Australia including diasporic writers, in particular Katherine Mansfield. She has also published on slum narratives, refugee writing, right wing rhetoric and fundamentalism. A recent publication is the coedited Routledge *Diaspora Studies Reader*. She is currently chair of 'Challenging Precarity A Global Network', vice-chair of the Katherine Mansfield Society, and co-editor of the *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, and of the Ibidem book series 'Studies in World Literature'.

Venue: Indo-Canadian Studies Centre, Room No. 49, Ranade Bhavan, Kalina Campus, University of Mumbai, Mumbai 400098

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