Innovation and Global Cooperation for Sustainability
12-14 March, 2024

A New Passage to India

Department of Germanic & Romance Studies
University of Delhi

Second Phase 2019-2023
The PI from the Bergische University Wuppertal was Prof. Ursula Kocher and from the Delhi University, Prof.Jyoti Sabharwal.

1. AIMS

- Within the framework of this project, it was attempted to depict the cultural and ethnic plurality of India through text selection in the Hindi Language.
- To prepare the German Students for this cultural plurality via workshops at the Bergische University Wuppertal on:

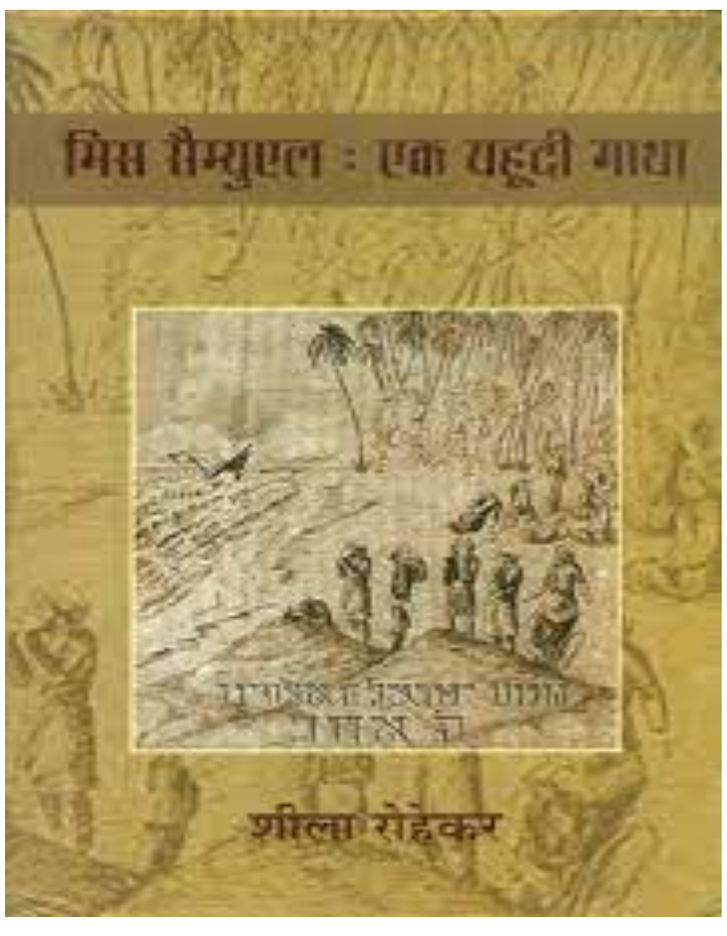
a. Intercultural Communication by Theresa Dobrick
b. Translation Studies : Irene Roelen
c. Introduction to Hindi : Ursula Kocher
d. Culture Studies: Doris Bachmann Medick.

- Completing the final draft of the translated text at the Delhi University, in colloquia by Jyoti Sabharwal
- To bring together Students from two disciplines - Masters in German Studies and Comparative Literature to merge into a Masters in German Studies and Cultural Management at the Wuppertal University.
- To form a translation collective of students for the productive sharing of linguistic and cultural competencies to produce a text in the target language
- Intercultural sensitisation through the mobility of German students to Delhi University and Indian students to Wuppertal
- To make contemporary and non-canonised texts available to the German reader

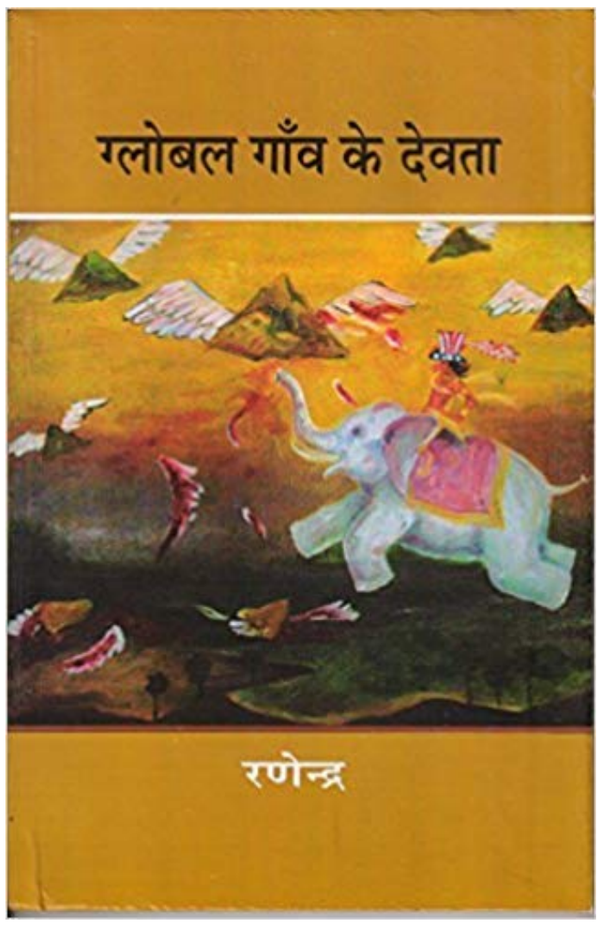
2. Outcomes

- Five students and one project coordinator from Delhi University completed the first draft of the Hindi novel Miss Samuel: Ek Yahudi Gatha by Sheila Rohekar. in collaboration with their German counterparts at the Bergische University Wuppertal, within three months.
- Five Students and a coordinator from Wuppertal University stayed in Delhi for three months and completed the final draft of the Hindi novel, Miss Samuel: Ek Yahudi Gatha, by Sheila Rohekar in colloquia at the Delhi University.
- Contemporary Hindi Novels were translated directly, without recourse to an intermediary translation into German. This was a major achievement in the field of translation studies in India and Germany.
- Young academics got an opportunity experience intensive and direct cultural exchange by carrying out cooperative, bi-national translation work in a university setting.
- It led to an understanding about cultural specifics, similarities and differences, which became tangible through the end product of the work, i.e., the translation.
- Both the Indian and German students gained insight into the state of translation studies and cultural studies through participation in this collaborative translation project.
- The Indian and German students gained awareness of linguistic and stylistic peculiarities as well as cultural concepts through direct, intercultural dialogue.
- Most of the Indian participants of this project continued to work in the field of German Studies in India.

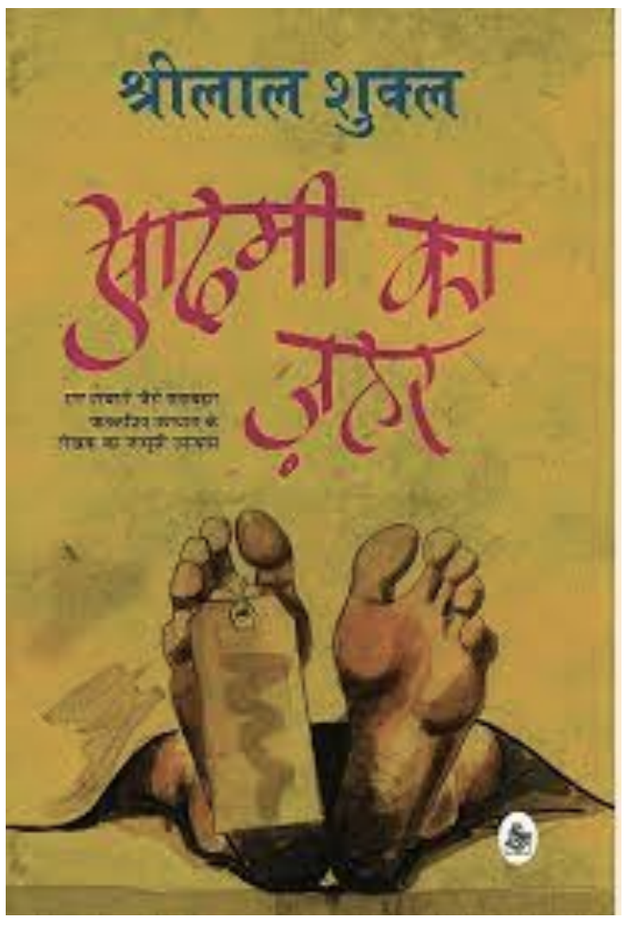
Miss Samuel: Ek Yahudi Gatha by Shiela Rohekar



Global Gaon Ke Devta by Ranendra



Aadmi Ka Zahar by Shrilal Shukla



Due to the Pandemic, 2020 onwards there was no student-faculty mobility, however, the existing translation drafts were further reworked by the translation collective of both the Universities.