



Bharath

INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

(Declared as Deemed-to-be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)
(Vide Notification No. F.9-5/2000 - U.3, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, dated 4th July 2002)



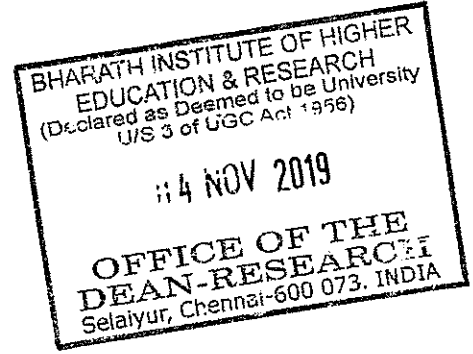
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173, Agaram Road, Selaiyur, Tambaram,
Chennai - 600 073. Tamil Nadu.

Ref No.SMS-2018-O-22

Date: 04/11/2019

TO
Mr. Dr. P. Arockia Nathan,
Associate Professor / English,
BIHER.



Thro: Concern Head of the Department

Greetings!!!

We are happy to announce that the Research Advisory Committee has approved your proposal for Seed Money Scheme-2018 which was presented by you. You are requested to complete the proposal and send the progress report to the Dean Research in the prescribed time period.

Title of the Project: Discovery of Self Identity in the Select Novels of Paul Auster

Seed Money Amount: Rs.1, 00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only)

Approved on: 02/11/2019

Payment details:

Voucher No.22

Dated: 08/11/2019

With Regards


08/11/2019
Dean-Research

Sarath University

SELAYUR, CHENNAI - 600 073, TAMIL NADU, INDIA.

CASH / PAYMENT VOUCHER

Date 08/11/19

V.No. 022

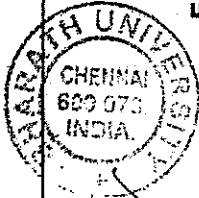
Debit _____ Amount _____

Rs. 1,00,000/-

PAID TO Mr. P. Arackla Nathan.

RUPEES one lakh only

TOWARDS Seed Money scheme - 2018.



[Handwritten Signature]

Authorised by

Finance Manager

Cashier/Accountant

[Handwritten Signature]

Payee's Signature

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

1. Details of Principal Investigator

Name : Dr. P. Arockia Nathan
Designation : Associate Professor
Highest Qualifications : M.A., Ph.D.
Department : English
E-mail : arockia.india@gmail.com
Contact no : 9003944137
Date of Joining : 10/07/2019

2. Details of Co - Principal investigator

Name : Ms. A. ANNIE CHRISTY
Designation : Assistant Professor
Highest Qualifications : M.A. M.Phil.
Department : English
E-mail : anniecurl@gmail.com
Contact no : 9566221077
Date of Joining : 03.08.2016

1. Introduction

Paul Auster is one of the most leading postmodern American writers of the late 20th and early 21st century. His novels have received much approbation due to his varied and innovative narrative techniques as well as his habit of blending apparently distinct elements in the realm of literary form as well as elements of plot construction. The cohesive force that underlies all his major works is the protagonist's search for self in an absurd and chaotic world, something that is evidently visible in Auster's own life as well. He has published several memoirs which have also received favourable criticism and form an important part of his literary work. His fiction and autobiographical works thus form a connected chain which leads to a unified whole engulfing all of Auster's views on life, existence, and survival, and amidst this panorama of ideological idealization is revealed Auster's perspective on the journey that is as open-ended as it is vague and ambiguous. Indeed, much like many of the characters in his fiction, Auster's own life revolves around finding who he really is and where he stands in the universe. In fact, one can say that Auster's fiction is, in fact, the very medium through which he attempts to delineate his own existence from the universe at large and thus compartmentalize what is personal, and what is part of the other, which is the world at large. This search is reflected in his works, and even his non-fictional works acquire a certain level of autobiographical character. Through the medium of his writing, he has tried to investigate his state of being and his characters become extensions of his own consciousness.

Auster's life might have been a plot in one of his own novels, in the way that it has been laid out in its uncertainty and randomness. Auster's own life story is rich in interesting details that matches any of his acclaimed works in terms of variety and includes an assortment of experiences that shaped and moulded its future course by their interaction with each other.

2. Review of Literature: Review of status of Research and Development in the subject

Evija Trofimova in the book *Paul Auster's Writing Machine: A Thing to Write With* (2014) talks about Auster's image as a writer and his genius in storytelling. He says that Auster's fixation with writing not only corresponds to writing stories but this is a means of writing the self. Trofimova discusses some postmodern affinities of Auster's works that show porous structure where –each of his texts leaks out into his other texts, creating a cross-spillage that

knows no generic boundaries (xi). But he also admits Auster's existential inclination:

...Auster's stories are variations on one and the same theme: human identity. The related concepts of crisis, quest and urban space are all made subservient to it. Such a suggestion adds some human pulse to Auster's work, which becomes audible to his readers who seek in it some resonance with their own existential struggles. That is a reason why Auster's work keep speaking to us and why we keep responding by reading it. Its appeal is deeply existential. (14)

Brenden Martin critically reflects on the postmodern aspects of Auster's works in the book *Paul Auster's Postmodernity* (2008). By quoting various critics of postmodernism, Martin justifies Auster's postmodern label. But he doesn't deny Auster's existential concerns and agrees that -Auster's existential philosophy...echoes the viewpoint formulated by Jean Paul Sartre. (72)

Aliki Varvogli evaluates some of Auster's novels in the book *The World that is the Book: Paul Auster's Fiction* (2001). She scrutinizes the role of solitude, chance and coincidence that helps in the self awareness of the characters in his novels. Although most of his characters go on a quest, they may not discover the fundamental truth. She further says that -the sense of indeterminacy, which is a manifestation of epistemological as well as ontological uncertainty, is underscored by the fact that the plot relies heavily on coincidence. (126)

Fred Coppersmith in an article, -Constructing the Self in Paul Auster's *Leviathan* (1998) says that

the characters in Paul Auster's fiction attempt to make sense of what Auster himself dubs (in another, later eponymous novel) -the music of chance - the remarkable coincidences and seemingly unexplainable nuances that a life is built upon - and, in so doing, they endeavor to understand themselves, to recreate life as an author crafts a story. (n.pag)

In an article, -Between Fabulation and Silence: In Search of the Paul Auster Effect (2013), Adriana Neagu investigates the key issues addressed by Auster particularly in the *City of Glass* and in all his novels in general. She holds that -in the introspective, meditative overtones,

the Austerian text veers between existential recit and a postmodern 'classic', allegorising the perpetually deferred signifier. (n.pag)

Richard Tetek (2008) opines that Auster's books -focus on contemporary problems of our lives in an original way. The theme of solitude, which is often connected with the quest for one's identity, is paramount in Auster's work, and it is one of the key issues he tries to explore.

In an essay, -Narrative Disappearances: A Study of Disappearances in Paul Auster's Works with a focus on *Invisible* (2011), Karl M. Duke reflects on the theme of disappearance in Auster's novels. He asserts:

The act of disappearing in Auster's texts is more than simply vanishing, not being there, departing. This is, in itself, a static event which cannot propel a story very far; instead, disappearance is closely linked to identity and especially the transformation of identities, changing them, recreating them. The reason for characters to disappear is often to start a new life by abruptly ending the former life they have led. Identities are therefore not solid entities, monoliths which unbendingly remain in their places; in fact, they are in constant turmoil which results in identities being part of a continuum, in a state of incessant alteration.

(11)

2.1. International Status: NIL

2.2. National Status: NIL

2.3. Importance of the proposed project in the context of current status including scientific objective: NIL

3. Progress/achievement so far, Reference Papers were collected'

Literature reviewed, further more literature reviewed

4. Work plan

1. Introduction

2. Between Freedom and Accident: *The Music of Chance*

3. Writing One's Self: *Oracle Night*

4.1. Methodology

1. Modern language of association Seventh edition has been followed for this entire project
2. The main objective of the project is evaluated by the research supervisor.

4.2. Time Schedule of activities giving milestones through BAR diagram.

S. NO	ACTIVITIES	1 st 4 (month)		2 nd 4 (month)		3 rd 4 (month)	
1	Literature survey						
2	<i>The Music of Chance</i>						
3	Characterization and plot						
4	<i>Oracle Night</i> Novel						
	Characterization of novels						
5	Literature Studies						

4.3. Expected outcome within the time period of Seed Money Scheme

- This search is reflected in his works, and even his non-fictional works acquire a certain level of autobiographical character.
- The theme of solitude, which is often connected with the quest for one's identity, is paramount in Auster's work, and it is one of the key issues he tries to explore.

5. **Suggested Plan of action stating the name of funding agency where the project will be communicated for financial support within the time period of project.**

NIL

6. **Bibliography:**

NIL

7. **List of Projects submitted/implemented by the Investigators (Separate for Pi and Co-PI)**

NIL

7.1 Details of Projects submitted to various funding agencies:

S.No	Title	Cost in Lakhs	Month of Submission	Role as PI/Co-PI	Agency	Status
	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

7.2 Details of Projects under implementation

Sl. No.	Title	Cost in lakhs	Duration	Role as PI/ Co-PI	Agency
	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

7.3 Details of Projects completed during the last 5 years

Sl. No.	Title	Cost in lakhs	Duration	Role as PI/Co-PI	Agency
	NA	NA NA	NA	NA	NA

8. List of publications published by the Principal Investigator

1. Effective Professional Development Strategies of English Language Teachers. International Journal of Advance Research and Innovative Ideas in Educaton. Vol-6 Issue – 6 2020 ISSN (O) – 2395-4396
2. Quest for the Self Identity in Paul Auster: A Reading of His Select Novels. A Research Article. Contemporary Vibes Vol-12, Chandigarh, March 2017. ISSN 0975-1750
3. Quest for Self in the New York Trilogy. South Asia Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies, New Delhi, Dec-2016.ISSN 2395-1079

4. A study of Socio cultural Vision in the Novels of Bhabani Battacharya Famine Theme. Kala Journal of Indian Art History Congress (Co-Authors) Vol- No.27, No.02: 2020-2021, ISSN:0975-7945
5. A thematic Study of Rudyard Kipling's Short stories. Kala Journal of Indian Art History Congress (Co-Authors) Vol- No.27, No.02: 2020-2021, ISSN:0975-7945
6. Feminism and Identity Crisis in the Selected Novels of Githa Hariharan. Kala Journal of Indian Art History Congress (Co-Authors) Vol- No.27, No.02: 2020-2021, ISSN:0975-7945
7. Humanism and Anti- Humanism in Vijay Tendulkar's Selected Plays. Kala Journal of Indian Art History Congress (Co-Authors) Vol- No.27, No.02: 2020-2021, ISSN:0975-7945

List of publications published by the Co_Principal Investigator

1. Subaltern Speak: A Study of Ntozake Shanges's For Colored Girls Who Have considered suicide when the Rainbow is Enuf. ISBN 978-93-80767-64-2
2. Feminism and Identity Crisis in the Selected Novels of Githa Hariharan. Kala Journal of Indian Art History Congress (Co-Authors) Vol- No.27, No.02: 2020-2021, ISSN:0975-7945
3. A study of Socio cultural Vision in the Novels of Bhabani Battacharya Famine Theme. Kala Journal of Indian Art History Congress (Co-Authors) Vol- No.27, No.02: 2020-2021, ISSN:0975-7945

9. Budget

Sl. no.	Books and Materials	Prices
1.	The New York Trilogy: City of Glass/Ghosts/The Locked Room. by Paul Auster. And Resources	Rs. 20000
2.	Moon Palace by Paul Auster and Materials	Rs. 30000
3.	The Book of Illusions by Paul Auster	Rs. 20000
4.	Oracle Night-Csd by Paul Auster	Rs. 30000
5	Total	Rs. 100000/-

10. Name of at least two subject experts from the Institute and one from the outside Institute with their contact details:

- a) Dr. Saraswathi – Assistant professor, and Head Dept. of English, BIHER,
Chennai-600073
- b) Dr. J. Kastro Kumar, Assistant professor, Dept. of English, BIHER, Chennai-600073


CERTIFICATE FROM THE INVESTIGATOR


Project Title:

Discovery of Self Identity in the Select Novels of Paul Auster

It is certified that

1. I do hereby agree to submit a complete proposal for financial support to the external funding agency within the time period of SMS-2018
2. I undertake that spare time on equipment procured in the project will be made available to other users.
3. I agree to submit a certificate from Institutional Biosafety Committee, if the project involves the utilization of genetically engineered organisms. I also declare that while conducting experiments, the Biosafety Guidelines of Department of Biotechnology, Department of Health Research, GOI would be followed in to.
4. I agree to submit ethical clearance certificate from the concerned ethical committee, if the project involves field trails/experiments/exchange of specimens, human & animal materials etc.
5. I agree to abide by the terms and conditions of SMS-2018, BIHER,Chennai.


Name and signature of
Principal Investigator
Dr. P. AROCKIA NATHAN

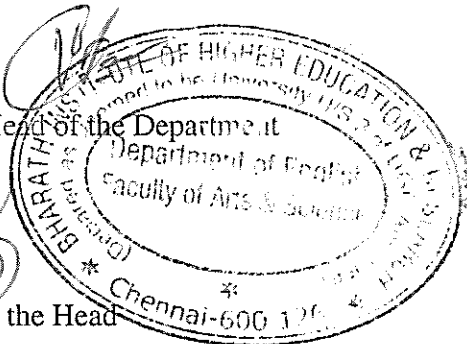

Name and signature of
Co-Principal Investigator
Ms. A. ANNIE CHRISTY

Date: 16/10/2019

Place: Chennai-73

Forwarded by Head of the Department


Signature of the Head



PROJECT EVALUATION FORMAT

Recommendation Sheet

Name of the Investigator : Dr. P. AROCKIA NATHAN

Name of the Co-Investigator : Ms. A. ANNIE CHRISTY

Name of the Department : ENGLISH


Title of project : Discovery of Self Identity in the Select Novels
of Paul Auster

Recommendation of the evaluation committee (Recommended/Revision/Not Recommended) ✓

Financial allocation recommended : Rs. 1,00,000 -

Sl. no.	Head	Prices
1.	The New York Trilogy: City of Glass/Ghosts/The Locked Room. by Paul Auster. And Resources	Rs. 20000
2.	Moon Palace by Paul Auster and Materials	Rs. 30000
3.	The Book of Illusions by Paul Auster	Rs. 20000
4.	Oracle Night-Csd by Paul Auster	Rs. 30000
5	Total	Rs. 100000

Name and Signature of the Research Advisory Committee members with date


Dr. P. Naveenchandran

BIHER, Chennai

Seed Money Scheme - 2018

