CAESURAE
POETICS OFCULTURAL TRANSLATION

CAESURAE SPRING RHYTHM

VOL 6, ISSUE 2, JULY 2025

ISSN 2454-9495



Contents

	Editorial	2
1.	Lost in Directions *Titli Kundu*	3
2.	Symphony of Silent Sorrows *Subrata Barman*	4
3.	'Evoking' the CHINMOYEE: A Journey through Kumortuli *Sagnik Bhaduri*	6
4.	Teesta Parer Vidyamandir, Where the New Generation Teaches the Next, and Dreams are Dreamt *Sagar Rakshit*	9

Editorial

Caesurae introduces a creative section specially for the youth. We invite students to contribute their thoughts, poems, stories, paintings, their innovations, songs, books, photography, clips from performances and what they feel like sharing with us, nationally and globally. This is the space where their worlds can meet.

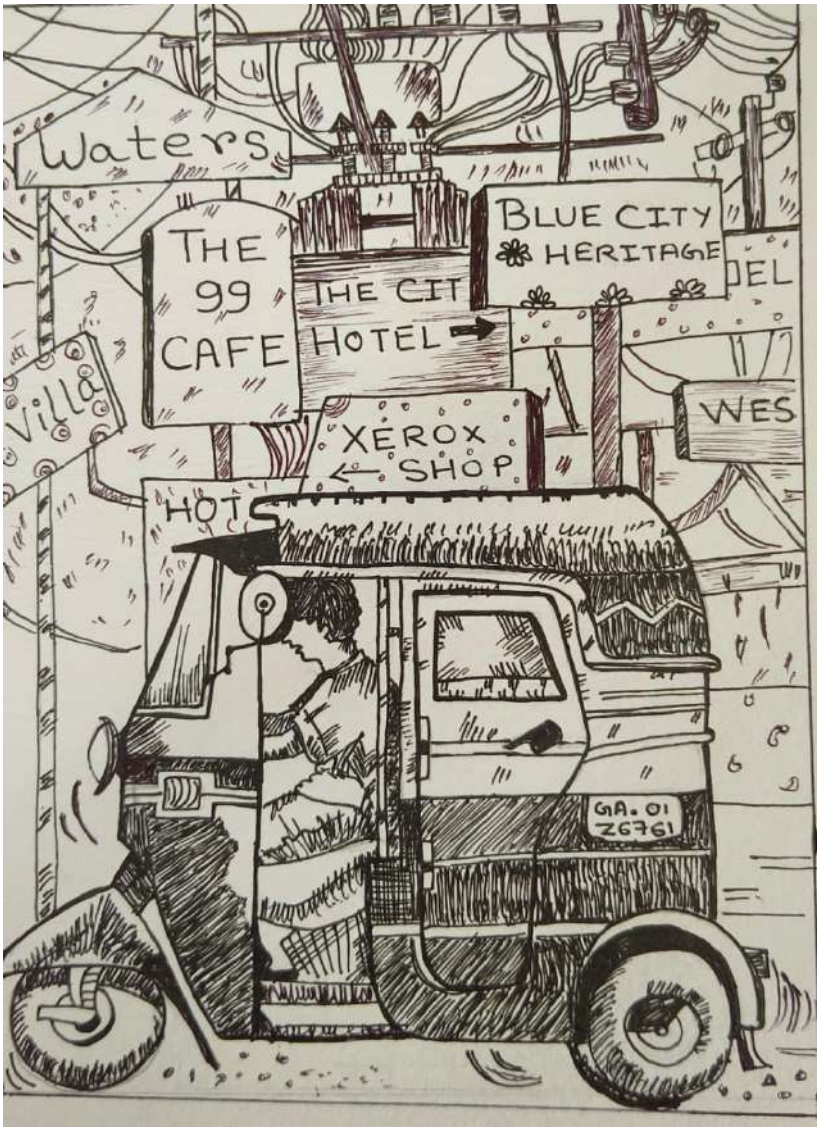
We are here to listen to them
speak,
we are here in this space for them
to share their talent,
their ideas,
their views
and their Spring Rhythm.

The theme of this issue (Vol 6: 2) of the *Caesurae Journal* is "**Tales from the Cityscape**." The existence of the cities can be traced back to the ancient human civilization, with Uruk (fourth millennium B.C.) of Mesopotamia being recognised as the earliest proto-city. The cities, as we know today, became widespread in the 18th century, as a result of Industrial Revolution. With people flocking there for new opportunities, the cities have also struggled with poverty and homelessness. The rapid, unplanned urbanization has contributed to 'urban decay,' which is brilliantly captured in Titli Kundu's painting "Lost in Directions." While the cities have become the host of myriad aspirations, the economic downturn also force the inhabitants to confront the brutal reality. Within the confines of the apartments, they search for comfort in vain, in spite of their efforts to put up a resemblance of 'home.' The poem, "Symphony of Silent Sorrows," by Subrata Barman, addresses this loss of human emotional warmth. At the same time, the cities are also witnesses to celebrations and festivities, whose glimpses are offered by Sagnik Bhaduri's photography series, "'Evoking' the CHINMOYEE: A Journey through Kumortuli." And amidst all hardships, one finds people striving to attain their dreams, and also lend helping hands for the others. Sagar Rakshit, in "Teesta Parer Vidyamandir, Where the New Generation Teaches the Next, and Dreams are Dreamt," pens down one instance of such commitment to the noble cause. The saga of people's resilience continues to shine through.

Oly Roy (Joint Editor, Spring Rhythm)
Tathagata Sagar Pal (Joint Editor, Spring Rhythm)

Lost in Directions

***Titli Kundu*



****Titli Kundu** is presently pursuing her Bachelor's degree in English Honours. She has recently secured the second position in deadlifting at the district level, a remarkable achievement that highlights her dedication and discipline. Titli exemplifies the spirit of determination and all-round growth by balancing art, academics and sports.

Symphony of Silent Sorrows

***Subrata Barman*

The city hums—
A ceaseless chorus of clattering wheels,
Whistles, wires, and weary feet,
A metronome of minutes
Where men and women march
To the tyrant tick of clocks.

Here, hearts beat like hammers,
Pounding on pavements that never rest;
Voices rise, yet no ear leans to listen
Another's trembling tune.
Each face, a fortress; Each gaze, a guarded glass
Echoes only itself.

Crowds swarm like rivers that never mingle,
Streams that rush past
Without tasting one another's thirst.
A thousand shoulders touch,
Yet no hand lingers
To ask: How heavy is your burden?

The neon nights
Burn like false suns,
Flooding the air with borrowed brightness,
But casting shadows longer
Than any lamplight can chase.
Loneliness, a silent street singer,
Sits at every corner,
Strumming sorrow in unseen strings.

At day's end,
In rooms that echo with absence,
Souls sink into silence—
A loneliness loud as thunder,
Yet hushed like falling ash.
No voice calls,
No ear bends,

No word warms the cold of solitude.
And this is not one, but a thousand stories written
In different hands, on different walls,
In different tongues.
The city, vast as a universe,
Is still a single mirror—
Showing us all the same face,
The same ache, the same hollow heart
Humming in the hive of stone.

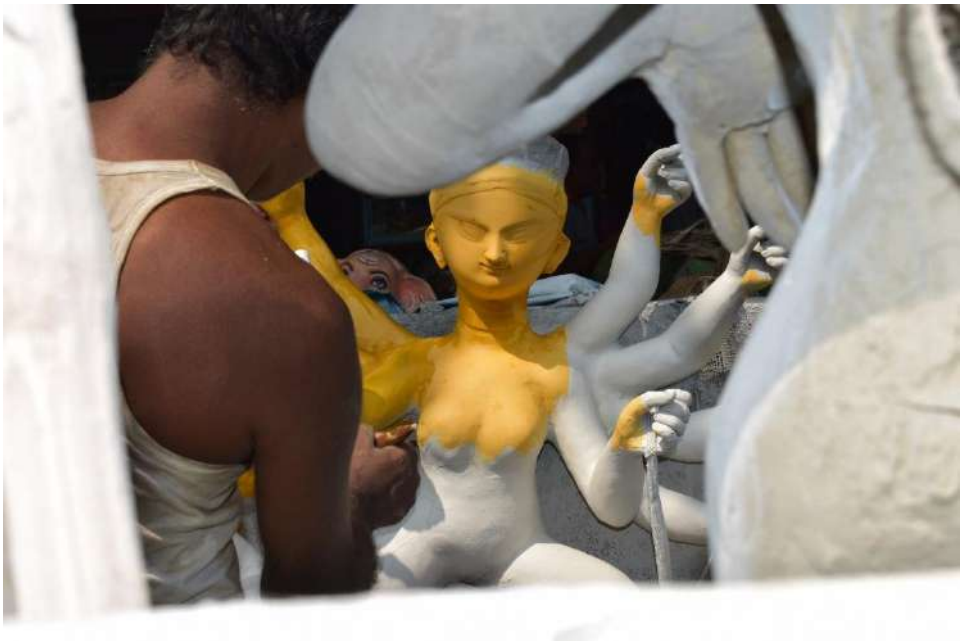
****Subrata Barman** is a Ph.D. Scholar of Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University, West Bengal, India. Apart from pursuing Ph.D., he loves to write poems and short stories. Some of his works have already been published in magazines and anthologies, including a short story in a previous issue of this journal, *Caesurae: Poetics of Cultural Translation*. Additionally, his critical works have featured in numerous books. He has also presented his research papers in numerous national and international seminars.



'Evoking' the CHINMOYEE: A Journey through Kumortuli

***Sagnik Bhaduri*

Durga Puja, observed in the month of Ashvina, is a major Hindu festival commemorating Durga's triumph over Mahishasura. While the goddess is worshipped throughout the Indian subcontinent, with variation in rituals, the festival is commonly associated with the Bengali Hindus. Over the years, the scope of Sharodatsava has continued to expand, with 'Durga Puja in Kolkata' being recognized by UNESCO in 2021. The silent warriors behind this joyous occasion are the *mritshilpis* of Kumortuli, a small neighbourhood of North Kolkata. Their artistic endeavours started from the days of colonial India, when they used to create the images of the deities for worship in the mansions of Sovabazar Rajbari, Jorasanko Thakur Bari and others. The popularization of the *barowari puja* and the theme-based idols have compelled the artists to harmonize tradition and new avenues of creativity. The demand of *pratimas* from Bengali diaspora has also resulted in the artists' encounter with the global market. On the eve of Durga Puja, the narrow lanes of Kumortuli pulsate with their gentle stroke of brushes. The present series is a modest attempt to document their efforts in this timeless work of beauty.









Sagnik Bhaduri has completed his Master in Business Administration from Bengaluru North University. He is an avid photographer, with several of his contributions being published in the leading newspapers and journals.

Teesta Parer Vidyamandir, Where the New Generation Teaches the Next, and Dreams are Dreamt

****Sagar Rakshit*** (Coordinator and Founder member of Teesta Parer Vidyamandir)

Nestled in the heart of Jalpaiguri, where the Teesta river has long been a source of life, hope, and belonging, stands Teesta Parer Vidyamandir, a school born out of compassion and vision during one of the most challenging times in recent history. The year was 2021, marked by the harsh realities of the Covid-19 pandemic, that witnessed not only fear and uncertainty but also rays of resilience that sought to uplift the community. It was in this spirit that the school came into being, with the dream of offering children a chance to learn, grow, and hold on to education at a time when many were at risk of slipping away from it. The founders of the school, Dr. Sudip Chakrabarty, a retired professor of Economics from Ananda Chandra College, and Sagar Rakshit, a Research Scholar and a teacher, dedicated themselves to the noble cause of ensuring that no child's education should be interrupted because of circumstances beyond their control. Their shared conviction gave birth to a space where children could not only study free of cost but also find joy and creativity.



Free health checkup camp for the students of Teesta Parer Vidyamandir

The name Teesta Parer Vidyamandir carries with it the essence of Jalpaiguri's soul. The people of this land have always nurtured a deep connection with the Teesta river — an eternal witness to their lives, struggles, and celebrations. Just as the Teesta flows tirelessly, enriching the land around it, the school was envisioned to flow into the lives of children with knowledge, care, and opportunity. It is located in 1 no. Teesta Par, Saradapally, Jalpaiguri, which grounds in the very soil that inspired its own identity. From the very beginning, the motto of the school was simple yet profound: to reduce the number of dropouts and to keep alive the spirit of learning in young minds. The school is not limited to academics alone. It embraces the holistic development of children by offering free classes in singing, dancing, and various co-curricular activities, allowing them to express themselves beyond the confines of textbooks. It is a place where talents are recognized, where creativity is encouraged, and where every child finds a voice.



Students with Dr. Sudip Chakrabarty (Founder)

Behind this effort, fifteen dedicated teachers give their time and knowledge entirely as free voluntary service. What makes this even more inspiring is that most of these teachers are young students themselves or aspirants working toward their own careers. By choosing to teach, they represent the new generation who are not only striving for their own future but also shaping the future of others. Their presence transforms the school into a living example of how education is passed forward, how knowledge is shared, and how service creates lasting change. The story of Teesta Parer Vidyamandir is not just about education; it is about a community that chose to stand together for its children. It is about hope flowing like a river, touching lives, and shaping a brighter future for the generations to come. What makes this initiative extraordinary is that it is entirely free, driven not by profit but by the belief that knowledge is the most precious gift one can offer.



Art and Craft Learning

As the school continues to grow, its spirit remains rooted in its origins — the desire to create a space for children. With every lesson taught, every song sung, and every dance performed, Teesta Parer Vidyamandir carries forward the promise that no dream is too small, and no child should be denied the chance to learn.



All students and volunteers



Sanskrit Learning Session for all students



Diwali Celebration in Teesta Parer Vidyamandir

Teesta Parer Vidyamandir stands as a testament to the power of community and compassion, where education flows like the Teesta itself; free, nurturing, and unstoppable. In the laughter and dreams of its children, the school finds its truest success.



Our Students performing a drama on International Mother Language Day



The Team- Teesta Parer Vidyamandir

Sagar Rakshit is a Ph.D. research scholar at the Department of English, Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University. He completed his M.A from Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata in 2019. He is also working as a Guest Lecturer in Siliguri College of Commerce for Communicative English since 2021. His areas of interest include Feminism, Gender Studies, Queer Studies, Popular Culture, Film Studies and Postmodern Literature. He has presented his research findings at national and international conferences. Additionally, he has contributed to academic book chapters and journals with his area of expertise.