



R. K. Narayan

# MIDNIGHT'S GRANDPARENTS FIRST-WAVE SOUTH ASIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH, A CENTURY LATER

Date: March 5, 2005. 9am-5pm

Venue: Combination Room, Trinity College  
University of Toronto

The last decade has seen the passing away of some of the major figures of 20<sup>th</sup> Century South Asian literature in English:  
Mulik Raj Anand, G.V. Desani, Attia Hosain and R.K. Narayan.

We invite you to this day-long symposium to reconsider the contributions of these and other writers from the first-wave generation  
of South Asian writing in English.



Attia Hosain and Mulik Raj Anand

## Keynote Address "Fathers and Sons"

Prof. Amitava Kumar,  
Penn State University,

Author of *Bombay, London, New York* and *Passport Photos*



G. V. Desani



Jean Arasanayagam

## Panel One: Mulik Raj Anand

"The Realist Novel and the Future State:  
Redefining the Citizen in Mulik Raj Anand's *Coolie*"  
Ulka S. Anjaria, Stanford University

"Outside of India, Outside of Politics:  
Mulik Raj Anand's Edifying English Audiences by  
Writing Indian Culture as Humanist Protest in *Untouchable*"  
Kelly Minerva, University of Toronto

"'True to the Salt of the Sarkar.' Indian Sepoys in  
Mulik Raj Anand's *Across the Black Waters*"  
Prabhjot Parmar, University of Western Ontario

## Panel Two: G. V. Desani, Attia Hosain and R. K. Narayan

"A Heart Divided: Education, Romance and the Domestic Sphere in  
Attia Hosain's *Sunlight on a Broken Column*  
Prof. Jill Didur, Concordia University

"Humiliated Heroes in *All About H.Hatter* and *Midnight's Children*"  
Prasad Bidaye, University of Toronto

"Text as Fetish in R.K. Narayan's *Waiting for the Mahatma*"  
Alicia Peres, York University

## Feature Video Presentation

A Conversation with Susan and Raja Rao.  
(Recorded February 2005)

## Panel Three: Jean Arasanayagam, Raja Rao and Anti-Colonial Indian Theatre

"Imperial Histories and the Languages of Indian Theatre"  
Prof. Nandi Bhatia, University of Western Ontario

"Forked Tongues, Divided Selves:"

A Brief Analysis of *Yavar Fiesta* by José María Arguedas and  
*Kanthapura* by Raja Rao"

Lipi Biswas Sen, University of Toronto

"Identity Watershed: Experience, Nationalism and Survival  
in the Work of Sri Lankan Writer Jean Arasanayagam"  
Danielle Vriend, York University

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Lunch and refreshments will be provided

Reception to follow conference.

RSVP at: [midnights\\_grandparents@yahoo.ca](mailto:midnights_grandparents@yahoo.ca)

Conference Website: <http://individual.utoronto.ca/midnight>

Organizers: Lipi Biswas Sen and Prasad Bidaye