



XIIth

P.K. Rajan

Memorial Lecture

28.02.2018 * 02:30 pm

University Senate Chamber
Palayam, Thiruvananthapuram



Dr. Peter J. Keegan is a senior lecturer in Te Puna Wānanga (school of Māori and Indigenous Education), the Faculty of Education and Social Work, The University of Auckland, New Zealand. His research interests mostly focus on the Māori language, assessment/measurement and language testing especially in indigenous language contexts, Māori/indigenous medium education and indigenous literatures. Peter is a co-editor of *Teachers Voyaging in Plurilingual Seas: Young Children Learning through More than One Language* (New Zealand Council for Educational Research, 2016). His most recent publication is 'On changes in New Zealand Māori Narrative: How an Indigenous Culture Engages the Modern World' in D. Dattaray, E. Halder, & S. Bhattacharya (Eds.), *Following Forked Paths: Discussions on the Narrative* (pp. 27-41). Kolkata, Setu Prakashani. Other interests and activities include spending time with family, reading, computers, hiking and trying to keep fit.

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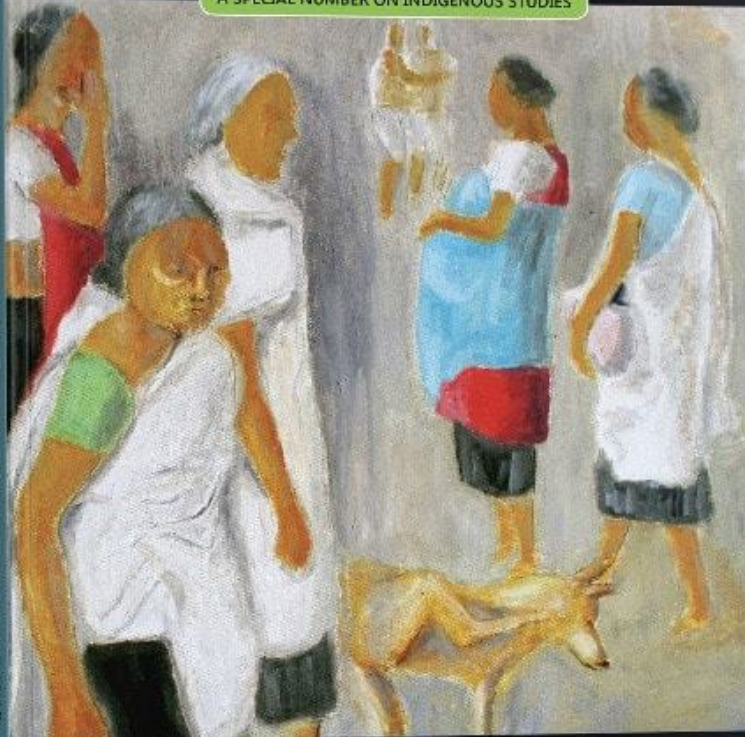
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ABSTRACT

Indigeneity & Indigenous Literatures

Since the late 1970s, indigenous groups in the South Pacific countries such as Australia and New Zealand have been active in reclaiming languages, culture, and lost economic resources. European colonisation resulted in English language domination, assimilation into the dominant Western culture, and devaluing of indigenous world views and practices. Indigenous groups have often target the education system, the media and government as key sites for language and cultural revitalisation. In addition, there have been renewed interests in both traditional literatures and oral practices, along with the adoption of the dominant English language for writing and reaching wider audiences. This talk will discuss the term 'indigenous' as currently applied in the South Pacific and the wider English speaking world. It will also describe both traditional and new indigenous literatures and how they are expressed in writing, music and cultural performances. The talk will conclude suggesting possible directions for indigenous literatures.