



St. Joseph's College Darjeeling

Bilingual International Conference

on

**Dynamics of
Cultures Languages & Literature**
Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region

22-23 November, 2024

organized by

**Department of Political Science
&**

Department of Nepali

Two-day Bilingual International Conference
on
Dynamics of Cultures Languages & Literatures
Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region

22nd – 23rd November, 2024

organised jointly by

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE & DEPARTMENT OF NEPALI

Call for Papers

The Eastern Himalayan Region is a vast and diverse landscape covering the lowlands of western Nepal, and the montane regions of central and eastern Nepal. In India, it includes the state of Sikkim, and the northern extent of West Bengal, including the Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts. The region also includes the northeastern Indian states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, and Nagaland, the entire country of Bhutan, parts of Tibet and Yunan (China), as well as the northern parts of Myanmar. The region is therefore a valuable repository of diverse cultures, languages, practices and literary traditions. Its unique geographical location, nestled between several countries and indigenous communities, has fostered an array of cultural expressions, linguistic and literary practices that continue to thrive amidst political, economic, social, and environmental transformations. The region's borderlands, such as those between India, Myanmar, Bhutan, China, and Nepal, are sites of contestations, exchanges and cooperation, where national boundaries often intersect with ethnic, linguistic and cultural divisions.

Against this backdrop this International Conference invites academicians, scholars, researchers, and practitioners to submit original research papers exploring the dynamic intersections of cultures, languages, and literatures within this fascinating region. By focusing on the Eastern Himalayas, this conference aims to create a platform for an interdisciplinary dialogue that explores the region's cultural diversity, linguistic vitality, and literary contributions to national and global discourses.

KEY THEMES FOR THE CONFERENCE:

- 1. *Cultural Identities, Heritages and Ethnicities:*** Exploration of how indigenous groups and ethnic communities in the Eastern Himalayas construct and express their cultural identities through art, rituals, festivals, clothes, food, and oral traditions.
- 2. *Linguistic Diversities, Preservations and Endangerments:*** Examination and analysis of the Eastern Himalayan region's linguistic diversity and state policy, including the challenges of language preservation cum practice amidst the forces of globalization and modernization.
- 3. *Translation Studies, Literatures and Storytelling Traditions:*** Analysis of translations, oral and written literatures in the Eastern Himalayan region, focusing on storytelling traditions, folklore, and the role of language and literature in resisting cultural assimilation and erasure.

4. Migration, Diaspora, and Cross-Cultural Influences: Study of migration patterns, diasporic communities, and how cross-border exchanges have shaped cultural, literary and linguistic landscapes in the Eastern Himalayas.

5. Environmental, Ecological Narratives and Eco-Literature: Exploration of environmental themes in the literatures and cultural practices of the Eastern Himalayan region, with a focus on how communities narrate, practice and experience their relationships with the land, flora, and fauna.

6. Nomenclative Politics: Issues of Languages, Cultures and Literatures - Explorations of the politics of naming, or 'nomenclative politics', to understand the power dynamics embedded in the act of naming or renaming places, people, and institutions in the Eastern Himalayas.

7. Borders and Borderlands in the Eastern Himalayas: Issues of Space and Territorialities – Exploration of the complex issues of space and territoriality.

8. Political Communication in the Eastern Himalayas – Studies and analysis of the various modes and manners of Political Communication in the Eastern Himalayas, with special reference to 'vernacular' expressions.

9. Modes of Governing the Eastern Himalayas – Exploring the politico-administrative structures of the region, including the role of municipalities, panchayats, autonomous councils, asymmetrical arrangements and other traditional institutions.

10. Trade practices and commerce in and across the Eastern Himalayas – Analyzing and identifying the impact of cross-border trade practices on the cultures and economies of the Eastern including exploring the role of markets, *haat* bazaars, online and e-commerce etc.

11. Emerging forms of tourism and hospitality in the Eastern Himalayas – Exploring the issues of tourism and hospitality industry that makes up a large sector in the region.

12. Digital and virtual cultures in and from the Eastern Himalayan Region - Exploring the relationship between people and technology, and how it has shaped our lives, society and interactions. Focus on online identities, activities, livelihood and cultures.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

We invite academicians, research scholars, practitioners, poets, authors and writers from across disciplines, including political science, literatures and languages, anthropology, linguistics, history, sociology, environmental studies, economics and cultural studies, to submit papers that explore the themes outlined above. Papers may engage with these topics from theoretical, empirical, literary or comparative perspectives. **Please note that full papers have to be submitted by the participants to sjcnorthpoint1@gmail.com with a word limit of about 5000-6000 words, complete with citations and bibliography in a standard referencing format (APA, MLA, Chicago etc.) before the conference. Selected papers will be published in an edited volume, after internal and external peer review, from a reputed international/national publishing house.**

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS:

For papers written either in Nepali or English language please submit an abstract of about 300 words containing your research question, methodology, and key arguments to sjcnorthpoint1@gmail.com latest by **1st November, 2024**. The abstract must be accompanied by your contact details and brief bio. Intimation of acceptance of the abstracts will be done through email on 5th November, 2024. Participants are requested to kindly keep the conference theme in mind when submitting the abstracts.

KEY DATES & INFO:

Last date for submission of abstracts in Nepali or English by email: 1st November, 2024

Date of intimation of Selection of abstracts by email: 5th November, 2024.

Last date for Payment of registration fees: 9th November 2024 (please note that co-authors have to register separately)

Dates of Conference: 22-23 November, 2024

Email id: sjcnorthpoint1@gmail.com

Location: St. Joseph's College, P.O North Point, Darjeeling.

REGISTRATION FEES DETAILS:

For faculty: Rs. 2000 /-

For Research Scholars & Students: Rs. 1000/-

For others: Rs. 2000/-

N.B Participants are requested to make their own arrangements for travel and accommodation.

Once registered, the Organizers will be providing all the paper presenters with kits, certificates, lunch and refreshments for the duration of the Conference.

PAYMENT OF REGISTRATION FEES:

A/C Name: SJC Exempted Items

A/C No.: 20520100000744

IFSC Code: UCBA0002052

Branch: North Point, Singmari, Darjeeling

Name: UCO Bank

N.B Please send the screenshot of the payment details for quick verification to sjcnorthpoint1@gmail.com Selected participants who wish to register offline can contact the Convener/ Jt. Convener either through e-mail or mobile numbers which are given below.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

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Advisor: Dr. Anirudra Gurung, IQAC Coordinator, St. Joseph's College

Convener: Dr. Samir Sharma, Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Political Science –
Mobile: 7585842250, Email: 86samir@gmail.com

Joint-Convener: Dr. Yogesh Pantha, Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Nepali, Mobile –
9733414867, Email: yogeshpantha30@gmail.com

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