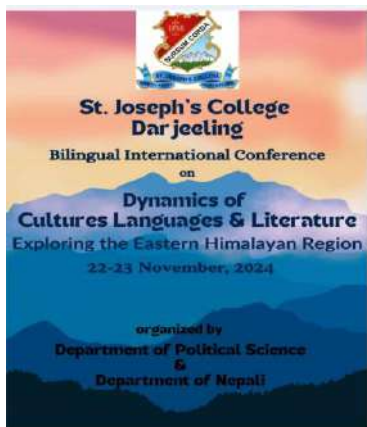


REPORT

BILINGUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “DYNAMICS OF CULTURES, LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES: EXPLORING THE EASTERN HIMALAYAN REGION” 2024

The Department of Political Science, in collaboration with the Department of Nepali, organized a two-day Bilingual International Conference on “**Dynamics of Cultures, Languages and Literatures: Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region**” during 22-23 November, 2024.



The event was a huge success and was led by Fr. Dr. Donatus Kujur SJ, Principal & Chief Patron of the Conference and the conference organizing team. The **Organizing Committee** for this Conference was constituted as follows:

Chief Patron: Fr. Dr. Donatus Kujur, SJ, Principal

Advisor: Dr. Anirudra Gurung, IQAC Coordinator

Convener: Dr. Samir Sharma, Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Political Science

Joint-Convener: Dr. Yogesh Pantha, Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Nepali

Dr. Radha Sharma, Associate Professor Department of Nepali

Dr. Sumita Rai, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Dr. Padam Nepal, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Mr. Balaram Sapkota, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali

Mr. Bhupal Chhetri, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali

Ms. Nooreena Khan, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

Ms. Pritika Raya, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

The Keynote Address was delivered by two eminent individuals - Prof. Mahendra P. Lama, Senior Professor, Centre for South Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi & Chief Economic Advisor, Government of Sikkim, India, and Prof. Abhi Narayan Subedi, former Professor of English, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal & columnist, author, playwright. The Valedictory Address was delivered by eminent author Mr. Prajwal Parajuly, currently Assistant Professor of Practice in Creative Writing, Krea University who spoke on the theme of “Identity and Literature: Reflections and Experiences”. During the Inaugural Session a special dance performance showcasing the culture of the Darjeeling Himalayas was conducted by the students of the Department of Political Science. The key themes discussed in the conference related to the following thematic areas:

- 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



Over the course of two days, there were 11 sessions in total, including the Plenary Session. Along with the 74 paper presentation from different parts of India and beyond, there were also 3 poster presentations from Research Scholars with dealt with the themes in an interdisciplinary manner.

Participants belonging to different disciplines arrived from different universities/institutions such as Jawaharlal Nehru University, Tribhuvan University (Kathmandu), Banaras Hindu University, Jadavpur University, University of North Bengal, Sikkim University, Dibrugarh University (Assam), Central University of Kerala, Kerala Assam, St. Xavier's College, (Kathmandu), Gorubathan Government College, Visva Bharati University (Santiniketan) Ghoom Jorebunglow

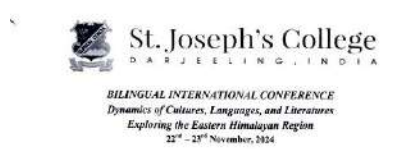
College, Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), New Delhi, Sikkim Government College (Namchi), Sikkim Alpine University, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, NISER, Bhubaneswar (Odisha), Siliguri College of Commerce and Krea University attended the Conference along with student volunteers from the Department of Political Science and Nepali.



The Convenor of the Conference was Dr. Samir Sharma, Head of Department (Political Science) and Co-Convenor was Dr. Yogesh Pantha, Head of Department (Nepali).



A Special Program of Book Launch was also a part of the inaugural program where the Principal, and the two Keynote Speakers launched the book from the previous conference “**Digital Governance & Digital Politics in South Asia**” (Bloomsbury, 2024) which was edited by Prof. Dipankar Sinha (University of Calcutta) and Dr. Samir Sharma (St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling). The Conference also launched a musical song on ecological narratives composed by the faculty of St. Xavier’s College, Kathmandu. The program ended with a vote of thanks from the Convener.



Registration of Guests & Participants

Sl. No	Name of the Speaker	Signature
1	Fr. Dr. Jernatus Kujur S.A, Principal, St. Joseph's College, North Daring, Dibrugarh	
2	Prof. Mahendra P. Lama, Senior Professor, Centre for South Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	
3	Prof. Abhi Subedi, former Professor of English, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal	
4	Mr. Prayal Parajuli, Author & Assistant Professor of Practice in Creative Writing, Kathmandu	
5	Dr. Anindya Goswami, JMC Coordinator, St. Joseph's College, Dibrugarh	
6	Dr. Pankaj Parajuli, Associate Professor, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	
7	Dr. Bhabu Chandra, Associate Professor & Dean of Students, Department of Nepali, St. Joseph's College, Dibrugarh	
8	Dr. Dewchandra Subba, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University, Sikkim	
9	Dr. Haradhan Das, Assistant Professor, Kalipada Ghosh Iron Vaidya Mahavidyalaya, Siliguri	
10	Khem Prasad Poudel, Lecturer of Nepali, St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu, Nepal	
11	Dewendra Prasad, Lecturer of Nepali, St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu, Nepal	
12	Dr. Dewchandra Subba, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University, Sikkim	
13	Dr. Gayendra Subba, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, Garhwal University, Garhwal, Katharpur	

52	Dr. Surej Gaurang, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University	Chandra Prakash
53	Hemlal Sharma, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	Hemlal Sharma
54	Manish Chatterji, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	Manish Chatterji
55	Arvind Kumar, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University	Arvind Kumar
56	Hema Bhattachar, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	Hema Bhattachar
57	Gyatsi Thapa, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University	Gyatsi Thapa
58	Santosh Kumar, Research Scholar, Central University of Kerala, Kerala	Santosh Kumar
59	Nisha Chatter, Research Scholar, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Sikkim University	Nisha Chatter
60	Krishna Dalal, Research Scholar, Department of History, Sikkim University	Krishna Dalal
61	Shibhansu Rai, Research Scholar, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Sikkim University	Shibhansu Rai
62	Dipen Bhagat, Research Scholar, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies & Management, Sikkim University	Dipen Bhagat
63	Trishala Subhra, Research Scholar, Department of Anthropology, University of North Bengal	Trishala Subhra
64	Dr. Rini Lama, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of North Bengal	Rini Lama
65	Balaram Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, St. Joseph's College, Dapcholing	Balaram Singh
66	Bhupul Chhetri, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, St. Joseph's College, Dapcholing	Bhupul Chhetri
67	Roshan Bhujel, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University	Roshan Bhujel
68	Riya Muktan, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University	Riya Muktan
69	Narayan Chhetri, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University	Narayan Chhetri
70	Chandra Prakash Rai, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University	Chandra Prakash Rai
71	Manpreet Sharma, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University	Manpreet Sharma
72	Dr. Prasad Rai, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	Prasad Rai

14	Sanjita Chandra, Research Scholar, Department of International Relations, Siksha University	Sanjita Chandra
15	Noreena Khan, Guest Faculty, Department of Political Science, St Joseph's College, Durgam Cheruvu	Noreena Khan
16	Tishi Chikri, Department of Mass Communication, Sakshi University	Tishi Chikri
17	Vedranthi Reddy, Assistant Professor, Indian History Culture & Archaeology, Vinnu-Balanti Institute, Srisailam	Vedranthi Reddy
18	Pravasi Rai, Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal	Pravasi Rai
19	Tarun Nigam Bharti, Research Scholar, Department of English, Sakshi University	Tarun Nigam Bharti
20	Abhinav Raj, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Chenn Jaganmohan College, Durgam Cheruvu	Abhinav Raj
21	Dipankar Datta Dasgupta, Departments of History, Jadavpur University, Kolkata	D. Dasgupta
22	Indira Rai, Research Scholar, Department of Economics, University of North Bengal & Assistant Professor, St. Joseph's College, Durgam Cheruvu	Indira Rai
23	Fred. Sankaradas Sarker, Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal	F. Sarker
24	Dr. Padam Nopal, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, St. Joseph's College, Durgam Cheruvu	Dr. Padam Nopal
25	Mr. Prithvi Raj, Development worker, DRI Proma, Durgam Cheruvu	Prithvi Raj
26	Dr. Sumit Sinha, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepal, Sakshi University	Sumit Sinha
27	Dr. Kaushik Datta, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Oribana University, Assam	Kaushik Datta
28	Dr. Bijan Chandra, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Sakshi University	Bijan Chandra
29	Dr. Utkam Rajin Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Viswa Bharati, Santiniketan	Utkam Singh
30	Dr. Pankaj Roy, Associate Professor, Department of English, St. Joseph's College, Durgam Cheruvu	Pankaj Roy
31	Mrs. Binu Sankar, Author & writer, Kailashnagar, Nepal	Binu Sankar
32	Sanjay Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Government College, Kailashnagar	Sanjay Sharma
33	Indrani Sankar, Research Scholar, Bhatara Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh	Indrani Sankar

73	Sushil Prasad, Faculty of English, Department of Major Arts, St. Xavier's College, Kuthambudi, Peral	#m7
74	Nima Lamsa, Department of Major Arts, St. Xavier's College, Kuthambudi	-
75	Paula Thiering Legoshi, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health, Gorchakov Government College, Kalpattuwa	Paula 20/1/24
76	Dr. Priyanka Kurnakar, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of North Bengal	Priyanka 20/1/24
77	Sheela Gungur Bhakta, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Siddik University, Siddik	Sheela 20/1/24
78	Yesther Onigbo Legoshi, Assistant Professor, Department of Legoshi, Siddik University, Siddik	Yesther 20/1/24
79	Yelmobor Down, Research Scholar, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, NISER, Hyderabad, Odisha	Yelmobor 23/1/24
80	Yungli Tamang, Research Scholar, Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal	Yungli 20/1/24
81	Miguna Onigbo Legoshi, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Siddik University, Siddik	Miguna 20/1/24
82	Dr. Bhuphan Tamang, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, Chitwan Government College	Bhuphan 20/1/24
83	Chakrta Kumar Tamang, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, Siddik College of Commerce, Siddik	Chakrta 20/1/24
84	Sagar Bardola, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Siddik University	Sagar Bardola 20/1/24
85	Abhinav Rishi, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Siddik University	Abhinav Rishi 20/1/24
86	Komal Basnet, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	Komal Basnet 20/1/24
87	Prison Chakrta, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, Siddik University	Prison Chakrta 20/1/24
88	Rishant Tamang, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	Rishant Tamang 20/1/24
89	Dr. Sonali Rai, Asst. Professor, MCAJ, St. Joseph's College, Kuthambudi	Sonali Rai 20/1/24
90	Sonu Sharma, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	Sonu Sharma 20/1/24
91	Sharmila Sharma - Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal	Sharmila Sharma

14	Satisha Chandra , Research Scholar, Department of International Relations, Siksha University	<i>Satisha Chandra</i>
15	Noorunnisa Khan , Owner Family, Department of Political Science, St. Joseph's College, Durgam	<i>Noorunnisa Khan</i>
16	Vidya Chakrabarti , Department of Mass Communication, Siksha University	<i>Vidya Chakrabarti</i>
17	Yeshwanth Desawa , Department of Ancient Indian History Culture & Archaeology, Vyas-Bharati University, Simlathum	<i>Yeshwanth Desawa</i>
18	Praveen Rai , Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal	<i>Praveen Rai</i>
19	Tamara Nysia Bhutta , Research Scholar, Department of English, Siksha University	<i>Tamara Nysia Bhutta</i>
20	Ashish Ray , Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Odisha Institute of Culture, Bhubaneswar	<i>Ashish Ray</i>
21	Dr. Jayaprakash Dutta , College, Department of History, Jharkhand University, Bokaro	<i>Dr. Jayaprakash Dutta</i>
22	Himal Rai , Research Scholar, Department of Economics, University of North Bengal & Assistant Professor, St. Joseph's College, Durgam	<i>Himal Rai</i>
23	Prof. Subashishita Sarkar , Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal	<i>Subashishita Sarkar</i>
24	Dr. Prabhat Puri , Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, St. Joseph's College, Durgam	<i>Prabhat Puri</i>
25	Mr. Rohan Raj , Development worker, DLIR, Purnia, Darjeeling	<i>Rohan Raj</i>
26	Dr. Samar Shaha , Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, Siksha University	<i>Samar Shaha</i>
27	Dr. Anandashankar , Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Orissa Open University, Bhubaneswar	<i>Anandashankar</i>
28	Dr. Bhabhan Goyal , Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Siksha University	<i>Bhabhan Goyal</i>
29	Dr. Vikram Singh Singh , Assistant Professor, Department of English, Vyas-Bharati, Simlathum	<i>Vikram Singh</i>
30	Dr. Pankaj Ray , Associate Professor, Department of English, St. Joseph's College, Durgam	<i>Pankaj Ray</i>
31	Mr. Bindu Sankar , Author & writer, Karmacharya, Nepal	<i>Bindu Sankar</i>
32	Dr. Suresh Sharma , Assistant Professor, Department of Newsworthy Government College, Kalampong	<i>Suresh Sharma</i>
33	Indranava Sahas , Research Scholar, Dattatreya Hindu University, Una, Pradesh	<i>Indranava Sahas</i>

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