



SACRED
HEART
COLLEGE
Autonomous



The Postgraduate Department of English

Sacred Heart College, Kochi

In Collaboration with

Prajñā Foundation, Kochi

Organizes

TWO-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR

**REDEFINING CULTURE
AND COMMUNITIES**

CULTURAL MOBILITY AND MIGRATION

24 - 25 SEPTEMBER, 2024



The dynamics of cultural mobility, as the quintessential human experience, is an integral part of the evolution and transformation of society. It challenges the spatial boundedness and fixity of cultural boundaries and deconstructs the authenticity and purity of cultures. Cultural mobility is a process that underlines the fluidity and contingency of cultural identities and critically examines the transcultural movement of people, ideas, and practices across space and time.

C O N C E P T N O T E

The process also constitutes negotiations of cultural identities as paradigms of power relations and their innovative representations in cultural texts. The mobility nurtures new forms of acculturation, a liminal space of cultural hybridity, resistance, and counter-narratives. Exploring cultural mobility appears rhizomatic with its myriad entwined paths connected with travel, migration, and diaspora. Cross-cultural encounters like colonization, creolization, and transculturation have also resulted in cultural mobility. A complex interplay exists between mobility and identity formation involving migrant identities, diasporic communities, globalization, and its power dynamics. The tension between conservation and innovation endemic in cultural mobility challenges a nuanced understanding of the cultural phenomenon and its impact on society.



The problem of cultural mobility can be explored through the following themes/subthemes:

1. Routes and Networks

Cultures traverse diverse geographical, political, and social landscapes through trade routes, diaspora, cyberspace, and cultural exchanges.

2. Cultural Encounters and Transformation

The porous character of culture enhances the transformative potential of cross-cultural encounters, foregrounding the liminality of cultural space, cultural hybridity, and transculturation.

3. Cultural Identities and Belonging

Mobility shapes individual and collective identities and interrogates the concepts of belonging and exclusion as reflected in diasporic narratives, migration policies, problems of citizenship, and the status of refugees.

4. Power and Resistance

The power dynamics of cultural mobility involving domination, hegemony, and resistance challenge cultural imperialism, address the question of subaltern dissent, and create counter-narratives of resistance.

5. Cultural Memory and Heritage

Mobility shapes collective memory and mnemonic practices connected to cultural monuments, promoting heritage tourism.

The seminar explores cultural mobility from interdisciplinary perspectives - anthropology, history, sociology, literature, and media - to illustrate how mobility challenges static notions of cultural systems, and claims of cultural superiority, foregrounding the multidimensional aspects of cultural dynamics. The seminar is expected to create critical reflections on how cultures and societies intersect, converge, and synthesize, fostering new configurations of cultural cosmopolitanism and citizenship. It also proposes to examine how different representations and representational modalities challenge traditional notions of culture, and identity, and create new spatial geographies, citizenship, and demography. The impact of migration and cultural mobility on human rights, labour, workforce, technologies, infrastructure, refugees and asylum, etc could be other areas of serious investigation.



CALL FOR PAPERS

Last date to submit abstracts: 15-09-2024
(Word limit: 250-300 words)

Last date to submit full papers: 20-09-2024
Word limit: 2000-2500 words

Abstracts and full papers to be mailed to:
ecnationalseminar2024@gmail.com

Papers can be presented offline / online.
However, there will be no online access
for plenary talks.

REGISTRATION FEE

Faculty members: ₹ 1000

Research Scholars & Students (PG/UG): ₹ 750

Online paper presentations: ₹ 400

Participation without paper presentation : ₹ 400

BANK DETAILS

to which the registration fee has to be remitted:

Principal, Sacred Heart College

A/c No : 17530100001012, Federal Bank, Thevara Branch

IFSC Code : FDRL0001753

IN CASE OF QUERIES, CONTACT



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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

DAY 1

9 am: Registration
9-30 am: Inauguration

10 am - 11-30 am:
Keynote address
Prof. (Dr.) Venkat Rao
Professor, English and Foreign
Languages University, Hyderabad.
**Topic: “Dehiscence of Cultures:
Roots and Routes of Cultural
Formations”**

11-30 am: Tea break
11-45 am - 1 pm
Paper Presentations

1 pm -1-40 pm
Lunch break

1-45 pm -3-15 pm
Plenary 1
Dr. Namrata Pathak
Associate Professor, North Eastern
Hill University, Meghalaya.
**Topic: “Walking the Town in Fear:”
Revisiting Precarity in Urban
Demographies in Select Texts
from Northeast India**

3-15 pm: Tea break
3-30 pm - 4-30 pm
Paper Presentations

DAY 2

9-30 am -11 am

Plenary 2
Prof. (Dr.) Bibhash Choudhary
Professor, Department of English,
Gauhati University.
**Topic: “What about Stasis?
The Intriguing Case of
Mohandas**

11 am -11 -15 am: Tea break

11-15 am -12-45 pm
Plenary 3
Prof. (Dr.) Bijay K Danta
Professor, Department of English,
Tezpur University.
**Topic: “Displacement,
Creolization, and Contractual
Justice: From Environment
Narratives to Ethnoscapes”**

12-45 pm -1-30 pm
Lunch break

1-30pm -3 pm
Paper Presentations

3 pm - 3-30 pm
Valedictory



RESOURCE PERSONS



PROF. (DR.) VENKAT RAO
Professor, English and Foreign
Languages University, Hyderabad



DR. NAMRATA PATHAK
Associate Professor,
North Eastern Hill University,
Meghalaya



PROF. (DR.) BIBHASH CHOUDHARY
Professor, Department of English,
Gauhati University



PROF. (DR.) BIJAY K DANTA
Professor, Department of English,
Tezpur University



ABOUT SH EAST CAMPUS

The East Campus is the new, forward-looking wing of Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Kochi. It is envisaged as the backbone of its foray into frontier academic disciplines. Apart from conventional stress on knowledge, the campus endeavours to cultivate in its students habits such as self-discipline, critical thinking, inquisitiveness and social and emotional intelligence, which are the attributes of holistic education. It also seeks to promote a multicultural learning environment without compromising the great values enshrined in our constitution and the rich Indian heritage of interiority, and lasting and self-sacrificing relationships. SH East Campus started functioning in the academic year 2020-21 with eight UG programmes and four PG programmes. Taking cognizance of the significance of skill development as a national priority, the programmes on the campus endeavour to lay adequate emphasis on skill development in the respective disciplines.



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

The Department of English at the East Campus was established in 2020. It offers Postgraduate and Undergraduate Programmes in English Language and Literature (Model I) and common courses for all UG programmes of the campus. The programmes and courses offered by the Department are intended to enhance the expressive and analytical skills of students by providing them a stimulating environment of intellectual growth. With its emphasis on interdisciplinary approach, the department hand-holds its students in negotiating language, culture, identity, race and gender. Besides being an intellectual space, the department is also a hub of co-curricular activities. The association of the department of English, 'The English Station' promotes holistic development of students and reinforces the enduring significance of English language and its literary heritage.



PRAJÑĀ FOUNDATION

The Prajñā Foundation is a non-profitable society registered under the Travancore-Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies' Registration Act 1955 to propagate the need for personal integrity and professional commitment in the field of higher education, especially in the field of cultural and literary research as professed, practised and propagated by Prof. N. Prasantha Kumar, Professor of English (Rtd), Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady. The Foundation works for the betterment of higher education through the promotion of research, development of cultural and literary theories, encouragement of translation and editorial assignments and other academic and cultural activities in India in general and Kerala in particular. The Foundation also aims at mentoring a community of committed teachers, Researchers and students interested in understanding and spreading the vital significance of cultural and literary theories to explain and resolve the problems of human life.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Dr. C. S. Francis : Vice Principal
Dr. N. Prasantha Kumar : Visiting Faculty
Dr. Johnson K. M : Secretary, Prajñā Foundation

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