

CALL FOR PAPERS



इन्दिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार का एक स्वायत्तशासी संस्थान

TRIPURA UNIVERSITY
Department of English

PROPOSAL

for

A 2-day National Seminar titled:
CULTURAL HERITAGE OF TRIPURA

to be organized by the

Dept. of English, Tripura University

in collaboration with

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal

Proposed dates: **18th & 19th of March, 2019**

Proposed Venue: Dept. of English, Tripura University Campus, Suryamaninagar, Tripura West.

Concept Note: The issue of Cultural Heritage has perplexed academia for a long time. As a combination of two mutually dependent words 'culture' and 'heritage', this term lends itself an aura that exudes a comprehensive and holistic approach towards everything that correlates to the fabric of social and cultural structure. An expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation, including customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions and values, 'Cultural Heritage' encompasses a plethora of tangible as well as intangible aspects of culture and human existence. UNESCO defines 'cultural heritage' as the entire corpus of material signs - either artistic or symbolic – carried over from the past to the posterity in each culture and, therefore, to the whole of humankind. This entails preservation and presentation of Cultural Heritage as a corner-stone of any cultural policy. At present the scope of the term has been broadened sufficiently to include tangible man made entities such as architectural complexes, archaeological sites and the natural environs as well as intangible aspects such as signs and symbols passed on by oral transmission, artistic and literary forms of expression, languages, ways of life, myths, beliefs and rituals, value systems, traditional knowledge and customary practices concerning nature and the universe as well as traditional craftsmanship. Transmitted from generation to generation and constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, 'Cultural Heritage' correlates to a dynamic paradigm that defies fossilization and mummification.

When applied to a state such as Tripura, the problematique of the paradigm increases manifold, since Tripura today is a confluence of several cultures, the ethnic and 'indigenous' tribal cultures of the state as well as the Bengali 'migrant' culture that is accused of 'influencing' and 'dominating' the former across years thus leading to a restructuring. This has also stimulated the former towards a cultural revival. And one cannot ignore other cultures such as those of 'Mainstream' India that today seem to make a dent in the cultural fabric of the state courtesy the political and electoral changes. The question is: how does Tripura negotiate these paradigms of 'Cultural Heritage'? What is the way out of these

bipolarities of ‘Cultural Heritage’ in a situation when the ‘indigenous’ and the ‘migrant’ cultural heritages are at crossroads with each other? Is ‘Cultural Heritage’ a monolithic and assimilative term that tends to bring all such traces under one ‘umbrella’?

The seminar thus proposed would attempt at negotiating these issues at close academic quarters. The focus is not towards arriving at a simplistic solution, but to comprehend the dynamics of the problem that constitutes the ‘Cultural Heritage’ of Tripura.

Details of Organization:

1. Aiming at inter-disciplinarity in the true sense of the term, we encourage participants cutting across disciplines, who take a keen interest in Literature, Culture, Art, Craft, Traditions and Performances of Tripura.

2. Students and Research Scholars are encouraged to participate and share their views on the ‘Cultural Heritage of Tripura’ and all themes related to it such as:

- a) The politics of Cultural Heritage- perspective Tripura.
- b) Cultural Heritage and preservation-perspective Tripura.
- c) Cultural Heritage and policy making-perspective Tripura.
- d) Various manifestations of the Cultural Heritage of Tripura.
- e) Cultural Heritage of Tripura in the age of digitization, animation and graphics.
- f) Oral History, Performing and Visual art and Architectural tradition of Tripura.
- g) Festivities, Rituals and Performances of Tripura.
- h) Subsistence Pattern and Traditional Knowledge systems of Tripura.
- i) Indigenous languages and their contribution to the Cultural Heritage of Tripura.
- j) Role of the university in preserving, promoting and documenting the Cultural Heritage of Tripura.
- j) Folklore and orature of the ethnic and the non-ethnic communities of Tripura.
- k) Cultural heritage and pedagogy- perspective Tripura
- l) Role of Museums in promotion/ revitalisation of Cultural Heritage of Tripura.

NB: The list is not exhaustive and would include every aspect of the Cultural heritage of Tripura.

Proposed Programs:

1. Plenary Speaking, Panel Discussions and Lecture -demonstrations.

2. Seminar Business sessions.

3. Cultural program and film screening.

Submission and format (Abstract):

An Abstract specifying a broad area of not more than 300 words having 5 keywords must be created in MS word using Times New Roman font. The abstract may contain one or two figures if required.

Title of the Abstract: 14 pt., bold, centered.

Author, co-author: 12 pt.

Address: 12 pt., Text: 12 pt.

The Abstract may be sent as an e-mail attachment to parthasarathi@tripurauniv.in

The organisers intend to publish the papers in a edited compendium volume later.

Important Dates:

Last date for submission of abstracts	6th March, 2019
Date of intimation of acceptance	8th March, 2019

How to Reach:

Agartala has direct flights from Kolkata, Guwahati, and Imphal. Train services are also available from Delhi, Kolkata, Bangalore, Guwahati and Silchar. Bus and Sumo services also connect Agartala with Silchar, Guwahati, and Shillong. Tripura University is 5 km away from the Agartala Railway Station and 18 km from Agartala Airport.

Travel and Accommodation:

Due to paucity of funds, the organisers are not in a position to reimburse travel expenses of the participants/paper presenters (except Resource Persons). **However, participants can make arrangements for food (except for 2 seminar lunches) and accommodation at the Tripura University Guest House on a first come first served basis by directly contacting:**

Dr. R.K.Mahapatra
In-Charge, Tripura University Guest House,
Mail: rkmahapatra@tripurauniv.in
Mob: 6370478845/9861033680

Or,

Mr. Newin Mog
Assistant Manager, Tripura University Guest House,
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and making necessary bookings and payments directly to the Tripura University Guest House as per TU Guest House rules and regulations.

On behalf of the organizers:

Dr. Partha Sarathi Gupta,
Assistant Professor,
Department of English,
Tripura University.
Joint Coordinator for the Seminar.

Prof Ashes Gupta
Department of English
Tripura University
Coordinator for the Seminar.
