

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON

"NATURE, CULTURE, SOCIETY INTERFACE IN INDIAN HISTORY"

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Research Collaboration with NTU, UK

6TH JUNE 2024

**ORGANIZED BY DEPT OF HISTORY, VIDYASAGAR
UNIVERSITY**

Link for Abstract Submission:
<https://forms.gle/it3feEZWRPi7xWdN9>

CONCEPT NOTE:

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIETY, NATURE, AND CULTURE IS VERY COMPLICATED, AND THEY ALL INFLUENCE THEIR CHANGE. SOME PEOPLE THINK THE ENVIRONMENT SHAPES ALL HUMAN LIFE, WHILE OTHERS BELIEVE THAT CULTURE DOES. DONALD WORSTER (1994) SUGGESTS THAT BOTH THE CULTURAL HISTORY OF NATURE AND THE ECOLOGICAL HISTORY OF CULTURE ARE ESSENTIAL. THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT HAS A DIVERSE ECOSYSTEM AND A LONG HISTORY OF INTERACTION WITH HUMAN ACTIVITIES AND IDEAS. THIS HISTORY WAS NOT ONLY ABOUT HARMONY OR EXPLOITATION BETWEEN HUMANS AND NATURE. SOCIAL SCIENCES HAVE CHANGED THEIR VIEWS FROM FOCUSING ONLY ON HUMANS. AS DIPESH CHAKRABARTY POINTS OUT, THE ANTHROPOCENE CHALLENGES THE IDEA THAT THERE IS A CONTINUITY OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE ACROSS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE (CHAKRABARTY 2009: 197). THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUMANS, NATURE, AND CULTURE IS COMPLEX AND INTERDEPENDENT. IN INDIAN HISTORY, NATURAL CALAMITIES LIKE FLOODS, DROUGHTS, AND EARTHQUAKES HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED SOCIETY AND CAUSED CHANGES IN SETTLEMENT PATTERNS. USING NATURAL RESOURCES SUCH AS WATER, FORESTS, AND MINERALS HAS SIGNIFICANTLY SHAPED INDIA'S CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. NATURAL DISASTERS OFFER AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE THE INTRICATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIETY, NATURE, AND CULTURE AND HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING NATURE'S ROLE IN OUR LIVES AND SOCIETY'S PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSES TO NATURAL DISASTERS. CULTURAL FACTORS SUCH AS BELIEF SYSTEMS, VALUES, AND SOCIAL NORMS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT HOW SOCIETIES PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO NATURAL DISASTERS. FURTHERMORE, THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN MEDICAL SCIENCE AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIETY, NATURE, AND CULTURE IS ALSO WORTH EXPLORING. THE INTERACTION BETWEEN HUMANS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT CAN SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT HEALTH AND WELLNESS; CULTURAL BELIEFS AND PRACTICES MAY INFLUENCE THE TYPES OF MEDICINES AND TREATMENTS PEOPLE SEEK, WHILE ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS SUCH AS POLLUTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO SPREADING DISEASES. MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH ADVANCEMENTS CAN ALSO PROFOUNDLY AFFECT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUMANS AND THE NATURAL WORLD. OVERALL, THE INTERFACE BETWEEN NATURE, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY IN INDIAN HISTORY HAS BEEN COMPLEX AND DYNAMIC, WITH EACH INFLUENCING AND SHAPING THE OTHER IN MANY WAYS. THEREFORE, THIS SEMINAR WILL NOT ONLY DISCUSS THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE HUMAN, NATURE-CULTURE CONNECTION IN INDIAN HISTORY BUT ALSO LOOK FOR NEW PERSPECTIVES AND QUESTIONS.

CALL FOR ABSTRACT AND PAPER:

WE WELCOME ABSTRACTS FROM VARIOUS PERSPECTIVES FROM DIFFERENT FIELDS. THE SUB-THEMES INCLUDE

1. Society and Culture
2. Nature, Culture, and Science
3. Climate and Culture
4. Climate and Health
5. Climate and Migration
6. Indigenous Knowledge and Culture
7. Natural Calamities and Health
8. Nature and Social Imagination
9. Nature-Culture Interface
10. Nature as Culture
11. Ecological Health
12. Ecology and Cultural Values
13. Aftermath of Human-Natural Calamities
14. Alternative Narratives of Natural Calamities
15. Nature as Reflected in Literature

REGISTRATION FEES: FOR RESEARCH SCHOLARS RS.500/, FACULTY MEMBERS RS.1000/-, STUDENTS RS. 100/-. SCAN COPY/SCREENSHOT OF THE PAYMENT DETAILS MUST BE SENT AS AN EMAIL ATTACHMENT TO NIRMALKMAHATO@MAIL.VIDYASAGAR.AC.IN

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- DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS(150 WORDS):
11 MAY 2024, 5 PM IST
- NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF ABSTRACTS:
13 MAY 2014
- PAYMENT DEADLINE FOR AUTHORS AND CO-AUTHORS:
15 MAY 2024, 5 PM IST
- DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF FULL TEXTS(BOTH PDF & WORD WITHIN 5000 WORDS):
4 JUNE 2024

SEMINAR PROCEEDINGS: AFTER PEER REVIEWING, ALL PAPERS PRESENTED IN THE SEMINAR WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION IN A SPECIAL ISSUE OF VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY JOURNAL OF HISTORY (UGC-CARE LISTED) AND AN EDITED BOOK WITH AN ISBN.

MODE OF PRESENTATION: HYBRID

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