



Two day International Webinar on

Conceptualizing
culture
in India
Nation, Province & Locality

March 23-24, 2022

Organized by:

Centre for Studies in Local Languages and Cultures
University of North Bengal



Concept Note

Conceptualizing culture in terms of investigation and theoretical study began as an articulation of the social scientists since 1980s. Varied facets of culture including meaning, social groups, patterns of livelihood, and segments of religion, language and creativity have been within the framework of research and exploration in recent times. India as is known to all is a fascinating country with different communities and religion. A country with polygenetic population and an amalgamation of several races and cultures, it has a distinctiveness and diversity with rich heritage. India continues to have one of the most ethnically diverse populations in the world having age old tradition and inheritance.

The 'Indian identity' has evolved continuously over the country's history as political and religious institutions have changed within and outside of India. The colonization, imperialism and Partition of 1947 created and reflected the complexities of cultural variations. The society with caste and its mobility and the discrete difference between *jati* and *varnas* classifies it uniquely. It has led to a cultural diversification and formation of language, literature, arts both visual and creative, music, dance, drama and theatre. The identity of Indians as social group and as a separate culture is visible among the diasporic Indians too.

With such a background the seminar/webinar wants to concentrate on the varied culture of the land providing a focus on the mainstream cultural groups and communities having their exclusiveness and recognized as a cultural social group. These groups form the dominant section of the society and impose a cultural hegemony over the minor groups. The multi ethnical character of the land has often led to the social exclusion of many groups who remain unattached from the core of the society. These tribes (major and minor), sub –tribes and castes which survives in locality, province, region or nation have been overlooked in the cultural framework. Of late, earnest pains have been taken to include these groups within the fold of majority culture. The policy of inclusiveness is adopted in matters of community and gender insertion and efforts have been made in removing the disabilities leading to exclusion and isolation.



Sub Themes (Not limited to)

1. Culture: Theories and Perspectives
2. Social groups and Communities: Society, Religion, Language, Music, Arts and Literature.
3. Diasporic Indians: Culture and Society
4. Arts and Aesthetic experiences across Cultures.
5. Indigenous Cultures and Ethnic Communities
6. Communication Power and Culture
7. Political Propaganda and Political Culture
8. Cultures of Global Communications
9. Inclusive Society: Policies and Strategies
10. Convergence Culture: From Conventional to Digital Media
11. Cultural Hegemony: Problems and Possibilities
12. Cultural Imperialism: Theories and Practices
13. Gender: Cultural Discrepancies



Call for Papers

Students, Research Scholars and Teachers, who are interested in presenting papers should send an abstract of the proposed paper (within 500 words) along with a short C.V (around 200 words) to **csllcnbu@gmail.com**. The language of the seminar will be primarily, but not exclusively, English.

The last date for submission of abstract is **March 20, 2022**. The abstracts will be blindly peer reviewed by an expert committee formed by the Seminar Organizing committee. The selected authors will be informed by **March 22, 2022**.

Plan of Publication

The selected papers of the conference will be published in the form of an edited volume from the Centre. The book would positively contribute to the current social science discourses, stirring new debates and advocating new possibilities in the academic discourse.

Organizing Committee

Chief Patron:

Prof. Subires Bhattacharyya, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, University of North Bengal

Seminar Director:

Prof. Koushik Joardar

Joint Convenors:

Dr. Dahlia Bhattacharya & Mr. Subhrajyoti Kundu

Members:

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