CALL FOR PAPERS

International Interdisciplinary Conference **(ONLINE)**

Humanities in Dialogue:
Culture, Identity, and Social Transformations
28th –29th January 2027

Department of English

Central University of Rajasthan

Bandarsindari, Kishangarh

About the Conference

In an era marked by rapid globalisation, cultural fragmentation, and shifting social identities, the discipline of the humanities remains vital for understanding the complex ways in which individuals and communities make sense of the world. At present, as AI and technology intersect with everyday socio-cultural and political negotiations, it may be essential to pay attention to the broader changes unfolding in the arenas of culture, identity, and society. Moreover, how do we make sense of the shift that points towards the conversations that subvert the very centrality of humans and the world established by them? Furthermore, it becomes increasingly pertinent to examine how digital spaces are gradually taking over non-digital ones, blurring the lines between the virtual and the real. Amidst this, the well-being of the environment and non-humans has become a global concern. Donna Haraway, in her work *Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene* (2016), rejects the term 'Anthropocene' and instead proposes the term 'Chthulucene' as, it better captures the complex, interconnected relationship between humans and non-humans. Besides, in such a precarious time, genres like speculative fiction, popular culture, children's literature, and science fiction, etc., are attempting to create a lens through which one can perceive an alternative critical perspective about the human world. In view of larger transformations of the present time, some issues such as sexual violence, gender bias, caste and class segregation, and social hierarchies still persist. It is believed that if humans engage with art, stories, literature, and other forms of narrative, they may find a way to imagine a better future.

The conference invites participants to explore how cultural practices, social structures, and power relations shape both individual and collective identities. In a world increasingly defined by migration

and transnational exchange, identities are constantly negotiated through language, representation, memory, and everyday cultural practices. Humanities scholarship plays a crucial role in illuminating how narratives, symbols, and cultural forms both reflect and contest dominant systems of power.

At the same time, it seeks to foreground marginalised voices, alternative epistemologies, and subaltern perspectives that challenge hegemonic narratives. By engaging with questions of food, race, consumerism, capitalism, technology, AI, and ecological crisis, etc., participants are encouraged to reflect on how cultural production becomes a site of resistance, negotiation, and social imagination. Special attention will also be given to emerging areas such as digital cultures, environmental humanities, health humanities, medical humanities, memory studies, digital humanities, blue humanities, and indigenous knowledge systems, which are reshaping contemporary debates about identity and belonging.

This international conference seeks to foster vibrant interdisciplinary dialogue among scholars, artists, and practitioners working across diverse areas of the humanities, creating a space for critical engagement with contemporary cultural and social transformations.

Furthermore, the aim is to critically examine the role of the humanities in responding to pressing global challenges: climate change, digital surveillance, cultural commodification, and the politics of memory. Through theoretical reflections, textual analyses, ethnographic studies, and artistic engagements, participants are invited to rethink the role of culture in shaping more just, inclusive, and sustainable futures. By fostering dialogue across disciplines, geographies, and cultural traditions, the conference aspires to be an intellectually stimulating platform for exchanging ideas and building new scholarly collaborations.

Sub-Themes

Papers are invited on the following themes (not limited to):

- **Culture, Memory, and Collective Identity:** *Narratives of belonging, heritage, and collective remembrance*
- **Literature and the Politics of Representation:** *How literary texts construct, challenge, or reinforce social realities*
- **Language, Identity, and Power:** *Discourse, ideology, and the politics of linguistic choice*
- **Digital Cultures and Online Identities:** *Virtual communities, platform cultures, and algorithmic identities*

- **Gender, Sexuality, and Cultural Narratives:** *Feminist, queer, and intersectional approaches to culture*
- **Caste, Class, and Social Hierarchies:** *Structural inequalities and their cultural manifestations*
- **Migration, Diaspora, and Transnational Identities:** *Cross-border mobilities and hyphenated cultural experiences*
- **Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Cultural Heritage:** *Decolonial perspectives and the preservation of local epistemologies*
- **Media, Popular Culture, and Society:** *Film, television, music, social media, and their cultural politics*
- **Food, Culture, and Identity:** *Culinary practices as markers of community, class, and belonging*
- **Cultural Resistance and Subaltern Voices:** *Counter-narratives, activism, and grassroots cultural production*
- **Environment, Ecology, and Cultural Imaginaries:** *Ecocriticism, climate humanities, and more-than-human worlds*
- **Translation, Multilingualism, and Cultural Exchange:** *Language contact, world literatures, and cross-cultural dimensions*
- **Art, Performance, and Social Expression:** *Theatre, visual arts, and embodied practices of cultural meaning-making*

Registration

Fee	Category
₹ 1,000	Academicians & Professionals (outside CURAJ)
₹ 800	Academicians & Professionals (within CURAJ)
₹ 700	Research Scholars & Students (outside CURAJ)
₹ 500	Research Scholars & Students (within CURAJ)
USD 50	International Participants

The participants whose abstracts are selected will be notified of the registration details via email.

Important Dates

Deadlines	Date
Abstract Submission Deadline	15 November 2026
Notification of Acceptance	25 November 2026
Last Date of Registration	15 December 2026
Full Paper Submission	10 January 2027
Conference Dates	28–29 January 2027

Abstract & Paper Submission Guidelines

Abstract Requirements

- Abstracts should be 250–300 words, written in English.
- Include the paper title, author name(s), institutional affiliation, designation, and contact email.
- Provide 4–5 keywords below the abstract.
- The abstract should clearly state the paper's argument, methodology, and significance.

Full Paper Requirements

- Full papers should be 4,000–5,000 words (excluding references).
- Format: MS Word (.docx), Times New Roman, 12 pt; paper title in 14 pt bold.
- Line spacing: double (2.0); margins: 1 inch on all sides.
- References must follow MLA 9th Edition style.

Submission Process

- All abstracts and full papers must be submitted via email to: humanitiesconference2027@gmail.com
- Subject line format: [Abstract/Full Paper] – [Paper Title] – [Author Name]
- Acceptance notifications will be sent by 25 November 2026. Authors of accepted abstracts will receive registration instructions at that time.
- Co-authored papers are welcome; each co-author must register independently.
- Submissions implicitly confirm that the work is original, unpublished, and not under review elsewhere.

Google form link for submission of abstracts -: https://forms.gle/mCPYoeywzwAP6X536

About the University

The Central University of Rajasthan (CURaj) was established in the year 2009 by an Act of Parliament (Act No. 25 of 2009). This University was established with the aspiration to be one of India's most dynamic and vibrant universities in order to impart cutting-edge education to all the learner communities. The University is fully funded by the Government of India, which provides quality education to all, especially those coming from humble socio-economic backgrounds and seeking quality education.

To date, CURaj has successfully completed a journey of 15 years since its establishment in the year 2009. In this short span of time, the University has emerged as one of the top academic institutions by adopting cutting-edge technology to impart knowledge for global outreach. The University is one of the fastest-growing and flourishing institutions of higher education in Rajasthan.

In the last 15 years of its journey, the University has emerged as a green and pollution-free campus which promises to provide an aesthetic and salubrious environment to nurture and optimize academics, research, and holistic development by engaging the students and staff members in various sports and cultural activities that are crucial for maintaining the well-being of the students and nurturing their potential. Currently, Professor Anand Bhalerao is the Honourable Vice-Chancellor under whose guidance and leadership the University has been blossoming ever since he took over the charge of Vice-Chancellor on 24th January 2022. The University holds NAAC A++ grade, positioning it among UGC Category I top-tier higher education institutions nationally.

About the Department

The Department of English was established in 2010 under the School of Humanities & Languages with Post-Graduation in English Literature (Four Semesters) and PhD in both, literature and language. Papers like English Language Teaching (ELT), Writing and Editing for Media, Creative Writing, Contemporary Critical Theory, Film Studies, Script Writing for Films, and Life Writing, taught in the Masters program make the Department distinct. The aim of the Department is to promote intellectual and critical thinking among students, and inculcating professionalism with humanitarian attitude, through teaching and training of English literature, language, and genre studies. The department's objective is to provide an environment for holistic development of the students.

Patron
Prof Anand Bhalerao
Vice Chancellor

Conference Chair
Prof. Sanjay Arora
(Department of English)

Academic Advisors
Dr. Shital Prasad Mahendra
(Dean, School of Humanities & Languages)
Prof. Laxmi Aiyar
(Department of Hindi)

Convener
Dr. Ved Prakash
(Assistant Professor, Department of English)

Organising Secretary
Dr. Neha Arora
(Associate Professor & Head, Department of English)

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