



OISCA INTERNATIONAL
Women's Chapter Trivandrum

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH (AIDED)
and IQAC,
Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous), Trivandrum

Jointly Organise

SAC'26

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Sustainability Across Cultures:
India × Japan
Food. Fashion. Everyday Life.

CALL FOR PAPERS

HYBRID MODE



22 – 23 OCTOBER 2026



Mar Ivanios College, Trivandrum

SUPPORTED BY

CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN, CHENNAI
&
JAPAN FOUNDATION, NEW DELHI

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP



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Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos

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Convenors

Co-Convenor

Ms. Karishma Suresh
Member, OISCA Women's Chapter, Trivandrum

CONCEPT NOTE



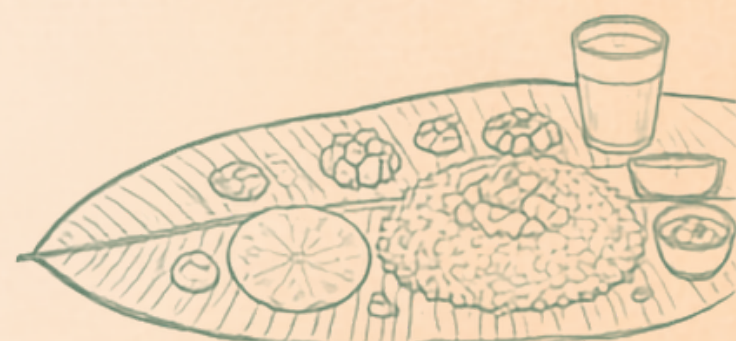
“Sustainability is not merely a response to environmental challenges but a way of life nurtured through culture, tradition, and everyday practice.”

Sustainability has emerged as one of the defining intellectual, ethical, and cultural imperatives of the twenty-first century. While dominant global discourses often privilege climate change, technological innovation, and environmental governance, sustainable futures are equally imagined through the practices of everyday life. Food, fashion, consumption, domesticity, and community engagement are not merely routine acts but complex cultural texts through which ecological consciousness, social values, and ethical responsibility are negotiated. These seemingly ordinary practices embody generations of knowledge, cultural memory, and resilience, revealing sustainability as a lived epistemology shaped by the interplay of tradition, creativity, material culture, and everyday experience. Consequently, the study of food and clothing cultures, literary and visual narratives, indigenous knowledge systems, and everyday practices provide a fertile theoretical ground for reimagining more resilient, just, and ecologically conscious futures.

India and Japan, despite their distinct historical trajectories, offer compelling paradigms for understanding sustainability as a civilisational ethos rather than merely an environmental response. India's traditions of community-oriented agriculture, indigenous food systems, handloom cultures, vernacular craftsmanship, and mindful resource conservation resonate with Japan's philosophies of *mottainai* (avoiding waste), *shun* (celebrating seasonal abundance), *satoyama* (harmonious coexistence with nature), minimalism, and repair culture. Together, these traditions demonstrate sustainability as a way of life, rooted in cultural memory, embodied through everyday practices, and nurtured through enduring relationships between people, communities, and the natural world.

Inspired by these shared philosophical inheritances, the conference seeks to create an interdisciplinary forum where food, fashion, and everyday life become critical lenses through which sustainability may be theorised, interpreted, and practised. It invites students, researchers, educators, academicians, practitioners, policymakers, entrepreneurs, artists, community leaders, and changemakers to engage in meaningful dialogue across disciplinary and cultural boundaries. Through keynote lectures, panel discussions, research paper presentations, workshops, film and documentary screenings, exhibitions, and collaborative networking, the conference aims to bridge scholarship and lived experience while fostering innovative partnerships and transformative action.

The conference welcomes original contributions from the humanities, social sciences, environmental humanities, sustainability studies, food studies, fashion and textile studies, cultural studies, media and communication, education, public policy, design, and related disciplines. By bringing together diverse intellectual traditions and lived experiences, it seeks to cultivate a vibrant space where critical inquiry, cultural imagination, and everyday knowledge converge to envision more inclusive, ethical, and ecologically flourishing futures.



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



KEYNOTE LECTURE & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Engaging conversations with experts and practitioners on shaping sustainable futures through knowledge, innovation, and collective action.



RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Featuring original research and interdisciplinary insights that contribute to contemporary sustainability conversations.



INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

Hands-on sessions exploring sustainable practices, traditional skills, and mindful living through Indian and Japanese perspectives.



FILM & DOCUMENTARY SCREENINGS

Curated screenings that inspire reflection on sustainability, culture, community, and responsible living.



EXHIBITION STALLS

Interactive exhibits showcasing sustainable products, traditional knowledge, cultural heritage, and local initiatives.



PRE-EVENT COMPETITIONS

Participate in creative, sustainability-themed competitions across various categories, win exciting prizes, and showcase your talent before the conference begins.



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Connect with scholars, sustainability advocates, practitioners, entrepreneurs, policymakers, food and fashion enthusiasts to build collaboration and share ideas for a better future.



CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Celebrate the rich heritage and diverse traditions of India and Japan through meaningful dialogue, shared experiences, and mutual learning.



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Awards will recognise outstanding research presentations and exceptional entries in pre-conference competitions.



CONFERENCE THEMES

Original research papers are invited in, but not limited to, the following thematic areas:

Theme I



Sustainable Food Cultures and Culinary Futures

- Sustainable food systems, food security, and resilient food futures
- Indigenous, traditional, and community-based food knowledge
- Culinary heritage, biodiversity, and seasonal food practices
- Food ethics, sustainable consumption, and food innovation
- Food and sustainability in literature, media, and popular culture

Theme II



Sustainable Fashion, Textiles, and Material Cultures

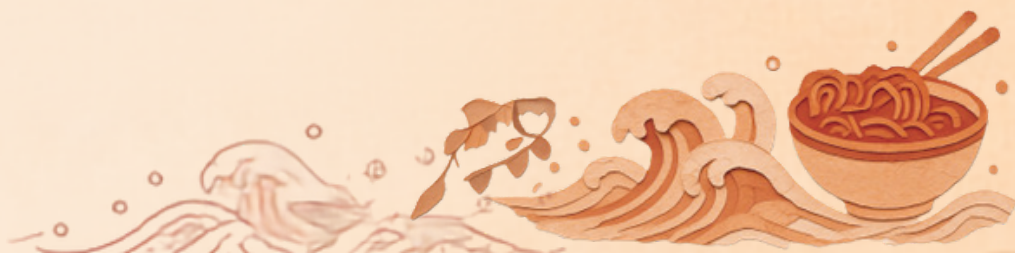
- Indigenous, traditional, and local textile knowledge
- Fashion, labour, and craftsmanship
- Slow fashion, circular economy, repair cultures, and ethical consumption
- Sustainable materials, textile innovation, future-oriented design, and digital fashion
- Fashion and sustainability in literature, media, and popular culture

Theme III



Everyday Sustainability, Interdisciplinary Approaches, and Global Futures

- Everyday practices, public policy, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Climate resilience and community-led sustainability initiatives
- Environmental literacy, scientific approaches, and sustainable development
- Environmental humanities, environmental communication, and sustainability studies
- Sustainable cities, tourism, and community well-being
- Japanese and Indian comparative approaches to sustainability



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND IMPORTANT DATES



The conference welcomes original research papers that explore sustainability through the lenses of diverse everyday experiences. The presentations will be conducted in a hybrid mode, enabling participants to present either in offline or online mode. Selected paper presentations will receive an **Award for Best Sustainable Thought**. Selected papers will be published in a **peer-reviewed journal with an ISSN**. Certificates will be issued to all paper presenters.



ABSTRACT REQUIREMENTS:

- Abstracts should be between 250 - 300 words and must include 3 - 5 keywords.
- Submissions must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere.
- Abstracts should clearly indicate the research objectives, methodology, and key findings or arguments.
- Should be submitted in Word and PDF formats, using Times New Roman, 12-point font, and single spacing.
- Submit your abstract with the file name: **FirstName_SAC26Abstract**. (E.g. Irin_AbstractSAC26). For multi-author submissions, use the first name of the first author.



PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS ALONG WITH THE ABSTRACT:

- Full Name
- Designation and Institutional Affiliation
- Contact Number
- Email Address
- Title of the Paper

ABSTRACT

Full Name
Designation
Department
Institutional Affiliation
Contact Number
Email Address

Title of the Paper

Abstract (250-300 words):
.....
.....
.....

Keywords (3-5):

Co-authors (if any):

Mode of Presentation (Online/Offline):

References (if cited):



SUBMISSION EMAIL : sac2026@mic.ac.in

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Deadline	31 August 2026
Notification of Acceptance	15 September 2026
Registration Deadline	01 October 2026
Full Paper Submission	15 October 2026
Conference Dates	22-23 October 2026



REGISTRATION DETAILS



Participation is open to students, researchers, faculty members, sustainability practitioners, organisations, entrepreneurs, and members of the general public interested in sustainability and intercultural exchange.

CATEGORY FEE (DOMESTIC PARTICIPANTS)

Category	Participation Only	Participation With Paper Presentation
Faculty/Professionals/Others	₹1000	₹1250
Researchers	₹750	₹1000
UG and PG Students	₹500	₹750

FEE FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS

Category	Participation Only	Participation With Paper Presentation
Faculty/Professionals/Others	₹2000	₹2500
Researchers	₹1500	₹2000
UG and PG Students	₹1000	₹1500



- Registration includes complete access to all conference sessions and highlights.
- As seats are limited, registrations will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Certificates will be issued to all registered participants.
- Please note that pre-event competitions are subject to a separate submission and registration process.
- For papers with multiple authors, each co-author requires separate registration.
- Registration fees are non-refundable.

HOW TO REGISTER?

Scan the QR code or use the Google Forms link to fill in the details.



<https://forms.gle/evQG4mfuPCEHR1pX8>



CONTACT INFORMATION



For call for papers enquiries,

Dr. Meenu Jose - +91 9495559094

Ms. Anjali A. R. - +918289814390

For pre-event competition enquiries,

Ms. Karishma Suresh - +91 9400704342

For any conference-related enquiries,

✉ sustainabilityacrosscultures26@gmail.com

For conference updates,

📷 [oisca_wc_tvm](https://www.instagram.com/oisca_wc_tvm)



Note: WhatsApp messages are preferred for enquiries. Kindly place a call if the message remains unanswered after a reasonable timeframe of 2-3 days.



VENUE

Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous),

Nalanchira, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India

HOW TO REACH?

Scan the QR code or use the Google Maps link for directions to the venue.



<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Yiew1o2j46t6rvoF8>

COMMITTEE MEMBERS



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