Souvenir

"Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges"

VIVEKANANDA GLOBAL UNIVERSITY, JAIPUR

Dr. Harshita Sharma
Dr. Lehar Israni

Two Days International Multidisciplinary Conference

UN World Environment Day, June 05-06, 2025

"Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges"

A Book of Conference Proceedings

Editor:

Dr. Harshita Sharma

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Message from the Chief Executive Officer

It gives me immense pleasure to witness Vivekananda Global University hosting the International Multidisciplinary Conference on "Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability" on the occasion of UN World Environment Day, June 5–6, 2025.

The challenges of the 21st century require us to rethink development through an inclusive, collaborative, and sustainable lens. At VGU, we believe that academia must take the lead in fostering conversations that inspire real-world solutions. This conference, bringing together global scholars and practitioners, embodies that mission.

I congratulate the organizing team and wish the conference great success in generating insights that contribute to a more sustainable and equitable future.

Warm regards,

Er. Onkar Bagaria

Message from the President

It is a matter of great pride that Vivekananda Global University is organizing this Two-Day International Multidisciplinary Conference in celebration of UN World Environment Day 2025, focusing on the theme: "Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability."

This conference serves as a vital platform for scholars, researchers, and professionals to engage in meaningful discourse on pressing global concerns. The interdisciplinary nature of the event echoes the need for integrated thinking to address challenges that transcend conventional academic boundaries.

I extend my best wishes to all the participants and the organizing team for a successful and impactful conference.

Sincerely,

Prof. N.D. Mathur

Message from the Pro-President

I extend my heartfelt greetings to all attendees of the International Multidisciplinary Conference being held at Vivekananda Global University on the occasion of UN World Environment Day, June 5–6, 2025.

The theme "Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability" is highly relevant in today's global context. This academic platform offers a space for innovation, knowledge exchange, and collaborative thinking to shape sustainable futures.

I commend the Department of Development Studies and the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication for their efforts in organizing this conference. I am confident that the deliberations will contribute significantly to academic and policy frameworks.

With best wishes,

Prof. D.V.S. Bhagavanulu

Message from the Convener

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to the Two-Day International Multidisciplinary Conference on "Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges", organized by the Department of Development Studies & Journalism and Mass Communication, Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur, in commemoration of UN World Environment Day on June 5–6, 2025.

This conference stands as a testament to our collective commitment to addressing the multifaceted challenges of the 21st century—be it climate change, sustainable development, or inclusive growth. Through an integrated and interdisciplinary platform, we aim to foster dialogue, share research, and promote action-oriented outcomes that align with global sustainability goals.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all distinguished speakers, researchers, practitioners, and participants from around the globe whose contributions will undoubtedly enrich the discourse and inspire innovative solutions.

Let us use this platform not just for academic exchange, but also to build collaborations that can create real-world impact in shaping a resilient and sustainable future.

Warm regards,

Dr. Harshita Sharma

Convener

Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur

Message by Secretary ICERT

On behalf of the International Council for Education, Research and Training (ICERT), it gives me immense pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all participants of the Two Days International Multidisciplinary Conference on "Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges". This significant event, organized in collaboration with the esteemed Vivekananda Global University Jaipur, India, marks a pivotal moment for intellectual exchange and collaborative exploration.

This conference serves as a vital platform, bringing together researchers, academicians, practitioners, and policymakers from global world. It is our firm belief that the convergence of diverse perspectives will foster rich discussions, spark innovative ideas, and ultimately contribute to meaningful advancements in the fields of management, education, social sciences, sciences, and engineering. The chosen theme, Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges" reflects the rapid pace of change that characterizes our times. From the disruptive influence of technology and the evolving paradigms of management to the critical shifts in educational practices, the complex dynamics of social structures, the groundbreaking discoveries in the sciences, and the cutting-edge innovations in engineering, each discipline is undergoing profound transformations.

We are particularly delighted to host this conference in a blended/hybrid mode, allowing for both in-person engagement at the Vivekananda Global University in Jaipur and virtual participation from across the globe. This inclusive approach underscores our commitment to fostering a truly international dialogue and ensuring wider accessibility to the wealth of knowledge that will be shared.

The proceedings of this conference, which you hold in your hands, represent a collection of the insightful research, innovative approaches, and critical analyses presented during the event. These contributions offer a valuable snapshot of the current state of knowledge and provide a glimpse into the future directions of these vital disciplines. We are confident that this compilation will serve as a significant resource for scholars, practitioners, and anyone interested in understanding and shaping the contemporary world.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Vivekananda Global University for their enthusiastic collaboration and for providing an excellent venue for this conference. My gratitude also extends to the dedicated organizing committee, the esteemed keynote speakers, the reviewers for their meticulous work, and, most importantly, to each and every participant for their valuable contributions and active engagement. We at ICERT are committed to fostering a global community of learners and innovators. We hope that this conference will not only be a forum for the exchange of ideas but also a catalyst for future collaborations and impactful research endeavours.

Thank you for being a part of this important international multidisciplinary conference. We wish you a productive and inspiring experience.

Sincerely,

Prof. (Dr) Sandeep Kumar

Secretary, ICERT

Message by Chief Executive Officer, ICERT

On behalf of the International Council for Education, Research and Training (ICERT), it is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to this International Multidisciplinary Conference, a collaborative endeavour with Vivekananda Global University Jaipur. This conference, focusing on "Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges"," represents a crucial platform for intellectual discourse and the sharing of cutting-edge research.

I am deeply committed to fostering environments that transcend disciplinary boundaries and encourage holistic approaches to knowledge creation. This conference embodies that vision. We live in an era defined by rapid change and interconnectedness, where advancements in one field invariably impact others. It is therefore imperative that we come together – researchers, educators, and practitioners – to explore these dynamic shifts and their implications.

This conference provides a unique opportunity to examine the evolving trends and transformations across diverse fields. From the integration of technology in education and the reshaping of management practices to the critical re-evaluation of social structures, the acceleration of scientific discovery, and the constant innovation in engineering, we are witnessing a period of profound change. The papers and presentations within these proceedings, represent significant contributions to these conversations. They offer valuable insights, provoke critical thinking, and pave the way for future research and collaboration.

ICERT's mission is to facilitate global dialogue and promote excellence in education, research, and training. This conference, with its blended/hybrid format, exemplifies our commitment to inclusivity and accessibility, ensuring that knowledge is disseminated widely and that diverse perspectives are heard.

I extend my sincere gratitude to Vivekananda Global University Jaipur for their partnership and for hosting this important event. I also thank the organizing committee for their tireless efforts, the reviewers for their expertise, and each participant for their invaluable contributions. It is my hope that this conference will not only enrich our understanding of the contemporary world but also inspire collaborative initiatives that address the complex challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

I wish you all a very productive and rewarding conference.

Sincerely,

Dr. Simran Mehta

Chief Executive Officer, Director & Head, ICERT

A Message from the Director, Research & Publication Division, ICERT

Dear Esteemed Scholars, Researchers, and Participants,

It is with immense pleasure and a deep sense of academic enthusiasm that I welcome you to the International Multidisciplinary Conference on " Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges". This significant collaborative endeavor between Vivekananda Global University Jaipur and the International Council for Education, Research and Training (ICERT), India & USA, truly embodies the spirit of interdisciplinary exploration.

As **Director of the Research & Publication Division at ICERT** and **Dean of the Department of Education at Baba Mastnath University**, my focus is consistently on fostering environments where innovative thought can flourish and translate into meaningful contributions. This conference's theme— Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges - is particularly compelling. It underscores the critical need for a holistic approach to address the complex challenges of our time, moving beyond conventional paradigms to create truly sustainable solutions.

This blended/hybrid conference offers a unique and vital platform for intellectual discourse, enabling the cross-pollination of ideas from diverse fields. Whether you are presenting groundbreaking research, engaging in stimulating discussions, or simply absorbing new perspectives, your active participation is crucial. The collective intelligence gathered here will undoubtedly enrich our understanding and pave the way for novel research avenues and actionable strategies.

I extend my sincere gratitude to Vivekananda Global University for their partnership and for co-hosting this timely conference. My appreciation also goes to the dedicated organizing committee, the distinguished speakers, and each of you who have joined us to contribute to this vital dialogue. Let us use this opportunity to deepen our knowledge, forge new collaborations, and collectively advance the frontiers of research for a more harmonious and sustainable world.

With best wishes for a productive and inspiring conference,

Prof. (Dr.) Aruna Anchal

Director, Research & Publication Division, ICERT

Dean, Department of Education, Baba Mastnath University Rohtak, Haryana

About the conference

The conference will provide the ideal opportunity to meet academics, practitioners, and experts in education, research, leadership, social sciences, humanities, management, science, art, culture, inclusive education, environmental education, engineering, law, health and public policy, to share their experience and projects to receive quality feedback.

Professional, academicians, scholars, researchers, psychologists, special educators, practitioners, and Postgraduate/ Graduate students are invited to submit their abstracts to be considered for presentation at the Conference. Speakers and presenters will share new concepts, best practices, knowledge, experience, theories, and solutions, with a focus on promoting learning, professional development, education, and inspiration among professionals and academics in their respective fields.

The conference focuses on (but is not limited to) all areas of theoretical and empirical research in the following fields:

Arts, Culture, Humanities, Science, Law, Management, Social Sciences, Technology, Health, Engineering, Mass Media, Journalism, School Education, Higher Education, Banking, Economics, Languages, Commerce, etc. A few sub-themes are given below, but not limited to:

1. **Spirituality, Psychology, and Mental Health**
   - Mindfulness and Well-being: Communication Strategies for Inner Peace
   - Spiritual Resilience and Psychological Healing in Crisis Situations
   - The Role of Meditation and Contemplative Practices in Stress Reduction
   - Transpersonal Psychology and Spiritual Growth
   - Spirituality as a Therapeutic Tool in Counseling and Psychotherapy

2. **Communication, Media, and Digital Spirituality**
   - Social Media as a Tool for Spiritual Awakening and Global Consciousness
   - The Rise of Digital Chaplaincy and Online Spiritual Counseling
   - Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality in Religious and Spiritual Practices
   - Ethical Challenges of AI in Spiritual Discourse and Communication
   - Podcasting and Storytelling: Modern Narratives of Faith and Spirituality

3. **Spirituality in Education and Leadership**
   - Integrating Spirituality into Modern Education Systems

- Ethical Leadership and Spiritual Intelligence in Corporate Communication
- Spiritual Literacy: Teaching Compassion and Values in Schools and Universities
- The Role of Spiritual Communication in Character Development
- Transformational Leadership Through Mindfulness and Spiritual Wisdom

4. Science, Medicine, and Holistic Healing

- The Neuroscience of Spirituality: Scientific Perspectives on Faith and Consciousness
- Spirituality and Complementary Medicine: Bridging Ancient Wisdom with Modern Science
- The Role of Prayer and Meditation in Healing Chronic Diseases
- Energy Medicine and Spiritual Healing Practices
- Holistic Approaches to Palliative Care and End-of-Life Communication

5. Interfaith Dialogue, Ethics, and Global Harmony

- Interfaith Communication and Conflict Resolution in a Multicultural World
- Ethical and Philosophical Perspectives on Spiritual Communication
- The Role of Spiritual Dialogue in Peacebuilding and Global Cooperation
- Cross-Cultural Spirituality and Religious Pluralism in the Digital Age
- The Influence of Ancient Spiritual Texts in Modern-Day Ethics and Diplomacy

6. Spirituality, Sustainability, and Social Change

- Spiritual Approaches to Environmental Conservation and Climate Activism
- The Role of Indigenous Spirituality in Sustainable Development
- Spiritual Narratives in Political and Social Movements
- Ecospirituality: Bridging Ecology and Spiritual Consciousness
- Humanitarian Communication and Spiritual Activism for Global Welfare

7. Spirituality and Artificial Intelligence: Ethical and Philosophical Dimensions

- AI, Consciousness, and the Future of Spiritual Communication
- Chatbots and AI-driven Spiritual Counseling: Opportunities and Challenges
- The Ethics of Machine Spirituality: Can AI Experience Transcendence?
- Virtual Gurus and AI-assisted Religious Teachings
- The Role of AI in Preserving and Spreading Ancient Spiritual Knowledge

8. Business, Economics, and Workplace Spirituality

- Corporate Spirituality: Enhancing Workplace Ethics and Employee Well-being

- The Role of Spirituality in Leadership and Organizational Communication
- Mindful Marketing: Ethical Branding through Spiritual Narratives
- The Economics of Spiritual Tourism: Pilgrimages in the Digital Age
- Money and Morality: The Intersection of Spiritual Values and Capitalism

9. Performing Arts, Literature, and Spiritual Expression

- The Role of Music and Dance in Spiritual Communication
- Sacred Soundscapes: Chanting, Mantras, and Vibrational Healing
- Literature as a Medium for Spiritual Awakening and Personal Transformation
- Theater and Ritualistic Storytelling: Performing Faith in the Modern World
- Digital Spiritual Art: NFTs and the Evolution of Sacred Art Forms

10. Gender, Identity, and Spirituality

- Feminine Spirituality: Women's Voices in Religious and Mystical Traditions
- LGBTQ+ Spiritual Narratives: Reconciling Faith and Identity
- Masculinity and Spirituality: Rethinking Strength and Vulnerability
- Sacred Motherhood: Spiritual Dimensions of Parenting and Caregiving
- Spirituality and Social Justice: Addressing Inequality Through Sacred Communication

11. Spirituality and Youth: Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century

- Spiritual Awakening Among Millennials and Gen Z: Trends and Transformations
- Youth-led Spiritual Movements and Social Change
- Spirituality in Popular Culture: Movies, Comics, and Gaming
- Finding Purpose in a Distracted World: Communication Strategies for Young Minds
- The Role of Spirituality in Preventing Substance Abuse and Mental Health Crises

12. Mysticism, Metaphysics, and Consciousness Studies

- Near-Death Experiences (NDEs) and Communication with the Afterlife
- Psychedelics and Spirituality: Expanding Consciousness Through Sacred Medicine
- Astral Projection and Lucid Dreaming: Communicating Beyond the Physical Realm
- Quantum Consciousness and Spirituality: Exploring the Science of the Soul
- Esoteric Knowledge and Spiritual Enlightenment in the Information Age

13. **Spirituality and Law: Rights, Freedom, and Ethics**

- Freedom of Religion and Expression in a Digital World
- Spiritual Rights and Human Dignity: Legal Perspectives
- The Ethics of Proselytization in a Globalized Society
- Sacred Spaces and Urbanization: The Conflict Between Development and Devotion
- Spirituality in Legal Systems: Moral Foundations of Justice and Law

14. **Death, Dying, and Afterlife Communication**

- Hospice Care and the Role of Spirituality in End-of-Life Conversations
- Cross-Cultural Beliefs on Death and the Afterlife
- Mediumship and Spirit Communication: Cultural and Psychological Perspectives
- Digital Afterlife: Memorialization in the Age of Social Media
- Rituals and Traditions Surrounding Death in Different Faiths

15. **Spirituality in Sports and Physical Well-being**

- Yoga and Mindfulness in Athletic Performance
- The Role of Rituals and Prayer in Competitive Sports
- Martial Arts as a Spiritual Practice: The Mind-Body Connection
- Nature Sports and Ecospirituality: Finding God in Adventure
- Sports Psychology and the Power of Visualization: A Spiritual Approach

16. **Law and Policy:**

- International Environmental Law and Governance
- National Environmental Regulations and Enforcement
- Environmental Justice and Equity
- The Legal and Ethical Implications of Climate Change
- The Social and Cultural Dimensions of Environmental Change
- The Role of Arts and Literature in Promoting Environmental Awareness
- The Role of Education in Fostering Holistic and Sustainable Development
- Building Resilient Communities for Environmental and Social Challenges

17. **Multidisciplinary:**

- Sustainable Business Models and Corporate Social Responsibility
- Green Finance and Investment for a Sustainable Economy
- Marketing and Consumer Behavior for Sustainable Consumption

- The Economics of Environmental Sustainability
- Digital Solutions for Environmental Sustainability
- Sustainable Design and Green Manufacturing
- Smart Cities and Sustainable Urban Development
- The Role of Technology in Promoting Holistic Well-being
- Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Restoration
- Renewable Energy Technologies and Sustainable Infrastructure
- Policy and Governance for Environmental and Social Harmony
- Community Engagement and Grassroots Initiatives for Environmental Action

Any other relevant topics related to the main theme or disciplines mentioned above, and UN SDGs.

Only original and previously unpublished work on a range of topics related to the conference theme will be accepted.

Call for Research Papers: Well researched papers on the theme/ sub-themes of the conference are invited from academicians, research scholars, students, professionals from different institutions. Abstracts of individual paper presentation proposals should be in about 300-500 words, in doc/word format. The participants should include in the abstract, details as to the title, name of author(s), University/Institution, and keywords.

A proceeding book of the conference including all abstracts (all presenters) with ISBN, papers presented during the conference, a print copy to physically present candidates, and soft copy to all, will be provided to all research presenters.

Best Paper Presentation Award: A Certificate of Best Paper Presentation, Best paper presentation award, will be awarded to two best presenters from each technical session.

Paper Publication: Authors who will present their research papers in the conference will be eligible to send their research paper (same as presented or different) for publication in following Journals:

ICERT International Multidisciplinary Journals, peer reviewed academic/ scholarly, open access journals with DOI. To know more about the journal, please visit www.icert.org.in. Accepted papers will be published in July 2025

1. Shodh Sari-An International Multidisciplinary Journal

An International scholarly/ academic journal, peer-reviewed/ refereed journal, ISSN : 2959-1376

2. Edumania-An International Multidisciplinary Journal

An International scholarly/ academic journal, peer-reviewed/ refereed journal, ISSN : 2960-0006

Submission Guidelines:

- Full length papers should not exceed 8000 words don't add endnotes or footnotes.
- For English Full paper: It should be typed in Microsoft Word. The font should be "Times New Roman" with "12" size for matter,16 size in bold for title, 14 size in bold for main headings & 12 size in bold for sub-headings, having line spacing of 1.5 inch and one-inch custom margin on all sides & A4 Size Paper.
- For Hindi Full paper: It should be typed in Microsoft Word in "Unicode" with font size14 for content, 16 bold for title & 14 bold for headings, having line spacing of 1.5 inch and one-inch custom margin on all sides.
- A Uniform Style for Citation should be strictly adhered to while submitting full length papers.
- All in-text citations must be hyperlinked with the references (cross-reference). Use the word reference tab for cross-referencing and hyperlinking. We also recommend you use Mendeley or other referencing tools.
- Submit a brief profile of the author on the Word file/ doc file, which should not exceed more than one page, and try to keep it as brief as possible.
- Each article must be submitted with an impact statement of not more than 150 words.
- References/ bibliography must be serialized as 1, 2, ...
- Provide write you ORCID, google scholar, academia, or other identifiers if you have one in your profile.
- Must check grammar under the review tab of MS Word
- You could read more Submission Guidelines | ICERT

You could read more about the journal here Edumania | ICERT

Awards (International Felicitation)

Chanakya Award 2025

Applications are invited from professionals, academicians, health professionals-teaching faculty, industry professionals-trainer/ leaders, and social reformers/ educationist for the prestigious international award "Chanakya Award 2025", for their excellence in education, innovations in academics, research, social welfare, and youth empowerment, will also be presented by the ICERT to recognize prominent personalities for their respected achievements & contribution in their respective fields and society as per the category and the eligibility.

"Chanakya Award" is a commemoration and homage to Chanakya, who was a professor, philosopher, a great scholar, and a royal adviser. ICERT Chanakya Award is recognition & felicitation to the educator who is an apt example of a true Guru and an ideal teacher or a social reformer.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. The application must have the minimum 30 yrs. age

2. The applicant must have demonstrated keen learning attitude, and achievements in life.

3. Applicants must have adequate experience in education, industry, social welfare or other discipline, and have positively contributed towards youth empowerment.

4. Must mention your social contribution and achievement in the profile before uploading in registration form.

5. Your profile must consist of

(i) Your full name as per your academic/ government approved identity document, and DOB.

(ii) Current work affiliation and job title, and contact info.

(iii) Educational qualification including degree, courses etc., with dates, and institution names,

(iv) Current and past employment with institution name, dates, and title

(v) Award citation and honours if any

(vi) Research experience with journal name and ISSN number with volume and issue number

(vii) Social welfare activities with evidences, social profile links/ identifiers, etc.

Award nomination is not a matter of award recognition claim, all nominations will be screened by the Award Screening Committee, the committee decision will be final and selected members will be informed via ICERT email: awards@icert.org.in

Conference Fee:

Only participation Fee is $10 USD/ Rs. 700

Participation & Paper Presentation Fee is $15 USD/Rs. 1500 (Rs. 500 for each co-author, co-author need not to register separately, mention the detail of the co-author in registration form)

Participation, Paper Presentation and Publication fee is Rs. 2500 for publication in ICERT International Multidisciplinary Journals.

Award nomination & Processing fee is $30 USD/Rs. 3000

A fee of $40 USD/Rs. 4000 for conference participation, research paper presentation and award nomination. (For one author, 500 additional fee for each co-author)

A fee of Rs. 4000 for research paper presentation, publication and award nomination. (For one author, 500 additional fee for each co-author)

Fee for ICERT members is $30 USD/Rs. 3000 including conference participation, paper presentation, and award nomination. There is no publication fee for ICERT Members.

A soft copy and printed copy of the conference participation, and a presentation certificate will be provided to the participants, as per category.

A soft and hard copy of the Award Certificate, Printed & Framed Award Certificate will be provided to each awardee.

Date of conference: June 05-06, 2025

Time: 11:00 am to 2:30 pm (Indian Standard Time) Registration Link: https://forms.gle/AC8pQMSzMEm5xEvB7 Kindly note that the last date of the following:

Last date of registration: May 30, 2025

Last date of submission of abstract: May 30, 2025

Last date of Award Application: May 30, 2025

Full Paper Submission: May 30, 2025

Send abstract and full paper at: conferences@icert.org.in

Early submissions are greatly appreciated

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ABSTRACT

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Empowering Women through Sustainable Business Models and CSR: A Review of Rural Entrepreneurship in Rajasthan

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Abstract

For many years rural women in Rajasthan have experienced socio-economic exclusion alongside restricted resource access and diminished presence in entrepreneurial sectors. The combined impact of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives and sustainable business models has created new opportunities for empowerment. The narrative review examines the transformation of rural Rajasthan's entrepreneurial sector through CSR initiatives and inclusive business approaches that have enabled women to participate more actively. The paper examines documented cases as well as government initiatives together with NGO partnerships and corporate involvement to chart the transformation of women into essential contributors within local economies. The document shows how CSR efforts support skill development programs along with microfinance initiatives and digital literacy projects and market linkage support. The study explores women-led sustainable businesses that operate using local resources while maintaining environmental responsibility and generating socio-economic benefits. Although advancement has been achieved in women entrepreneurship, significant barriers including scalability limitations, mentorship shortages, and restricted financial access continue to exist. The research provides practical guidelines to reinforce the rural entrepreneurial environment in Rajasthan with collaborative approaches that fit local conditions and align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Keywords: Corporate Social Responsibility, sustainable business models, women entrepreneurship, UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), digital literacy

Enhancing Quality Teacher Education in Nigeria: A Pathway to Sustainable National Development in the 21st Century

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Abstract

Quality teacher education plays a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of national development and societal transformation in Nigeria. This paper Enhancing Quality Teacher Education In Nigeria: A Pathway To Sustainable National Development In The 21st Century

delves into the significance of well-prepared educators in driving progress and explores strategies to enhance the quality of teacher education. It examines the challenges faced by the Nigerian education system and highlights the need for comprehensive reforms to ensure effective teacher preparation. The paper underscores the role of teacher education in producing skilled citizens who can contribute to the country's socio-economic advancement.

Keywords: Quality, Teacher Education, National Development & Transformation.

Two Days International Multidisciplinary Conference on "Navigating Complexity, Fostering Holistic Development, and Environmental Sustainability: A Multidisciplinary Approach to 21st Century Challenges" on the occasion of UN World Environment Day on June 05-06, 2025 at Jaipur, India jointly organized by
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Influence Of Lecture Method on Political Awareness Among Civic Education Students in Senior Secondary Schools, Nigeria

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Abstract

Despite gaining political independence in 1960, Nigeria still faces a plethora of citizenship (political) issues hindering desirable nation building and national development. In all of these, the school cannot be left out, because the school is a potential agent of socialization which helps in influencing the formation of political norms, social values and attitude (political awareness) in citizens. Nigeria's educational curriculum is planned to reflect the national political issues and concerns translated into national goals of education. But has this helped Nigeria as a nation, the answer will be to some extent, but certainly not to a large extent. This has necessitated the introduction of civic education at the senior secondary school level to inculcate national consciousness, civic literacy and civic competence. One of the ways of achieving these laudable objectives is through various teaching methods in civic education of which the lecture method is one of them. This paper therefore, took a look at clarification of concepts such as, civic education, lecture method and political awareness; it focuses on the advantages of lecture method; importance of political awareness in senior secondary schools in Nigeria; it also examined the influence of lecture method on political awareness among civic education students in senior secondary schools in Nigeria. The paper concluded with some recommendations such as: After a lesson on political awareness, students should be taken out to visit political institutions to have firsthand knowledge and information of their methods of operation from the sources; the lecture method should be used to combat misinformation and propaganda that can lead to unhealthy democracy among students; there is the need for the students to enact the political processes in Nigeria to enable them have better understanding, with the teacher leading the process during the lesson; the lecture method should be more interactive and augmented with adequate and appropriate instructional resource materials to facilitate the comprehension of the political institutions and processes leading to the acquisition of political awareness by the students in senior secondary schools in Nigeria.

Keywords: Civic Education, Lecture Method, Political Awareness.

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Ethical Online Retailing: Balancing Personalization with Consumer Rights

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Abstract

The digital transformation of retail has led to highly personalized consumer experiences, powered by artificial intelligence, big data analytics, and recommendation algorithms. While personalization enhances user satisfaction and engagement, it simultaneously raises significant ethical concerns related to data privacy, surveillance, profiling, discrimination, and consumer autonomy. This paper explores the ethical paradox of personalization in online retailing: the challenge of leveraging consumer data to deliver value while safeguarding fundamental consumer rights. Through a multidisciplinary lens encompassing business ethics, digital consumer protection, and AI governance, the paper investigates key ethical dilemmas in data-driven personalization strategies. It discusses legal frameworks, industry best practices, and consumer expectations. The research also presents case studies of Amazon, Flipkart, and niche ethical e-retailers to contrast varying practices. The paper proposes a consumer-centric ethical framework for online retail personalization that ensures fairness, transparency, and consent. It concludes that ethical personalization is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic necessity for sustainable brand trust in the digital economy.

Keywords: online personalization, consumer rights, ethical retail, digital ethics, privacy, personalization paradox

Beyond the Totalitarian Eye: Reimagining God through Whitehead's Process Philosophy

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Abstract:

This study examines the relevance of Alfred North Whitehead's redefinition of God in Process and Reality in contrast to the metaphor of the "totalitarian eye"—a symbol of coercive control, surveillance, and authoritarian power. In modern societies, including religious and cultural contexts, the divine is often imagined in terms akin to this totalitarian gaze: all-seeing, judgmental, and enforcing obedience through fear or miraculous intervention. This perception is frequently reinforced in media narratives that highlight supernatural deaths, black magic, and ritualistic practices as tools for controlling fate or enforcing moral order.

Whitehead offers a radically different vision. In his process philosophy, God is not an omnipotent overseer but a persuasive force that works through relationality, creativity, and possibility. God, for Whitehead, is the source of novelty and the companion in becoming—inviting rather than commanding, nurturing rather than surveilling. This redefinition challenges the hierarchical and deterministic images of God that often underpin exploitative spiritual practices and fatalistic beliefs.

By contrasting the coercive logic of the "totalitarian eye" with Whitehead's participatory God, this study argues for a more ethical, dynamic, and life-affirming understanding of divinity. Such a framework not only counters the manipulation of faith in public discourse—especially in Kerala's media representations of magical and supernatural phenomena—but also encourages a theology grounded in freedom, responsibility, and the shared evolution of the world.

Keywords: Process Theology, Philosophy of Religion, Relational God, Divine Persuasion, Metaphysics of Becoming, Divinity.

Weed Diversity in Barpeta District: Weed as A Potential Source for Sustainable and Diverse Food Source

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Abstract

Weeds grow in both urban and agricultural field often consider undesirable or invasive, play a complex and sometimes nuisance role in agriculture and human settlement. The weeds which grow in agricultural field are generally considered undesirable and targeted to eradicate as they retard the growth crop plants by using up the nutrients from the soil and compete for sunlight. Despite of their adverse effect, weed have a positive potential as a sustainable and food source and can contribute to food security and nutritional diversity in many regions where food resources are scarce. It was reported that about 66% of weed are edible and form an additional source of food. This study focuses on the 47 edible weed species under 33 families collected from Howly and Barpeta road area of Barpeta district, Assam. The objective of the study was to document the weed species traditionally used as vegetables in the study area. By promoting their importance through awareness aim to contribute conservation.

Keywords: Weed, Food security, edible, Traditional.

Spiritual Pedagogies and Transformative Learning: A Comparative Inquiry into Tagore and Sathya Sai Baba's Educational Philosophies

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Abstract

This paper presents a comparative analysis of Rabindranath Tagore and Sri Sathya Sai Baba as visionary educationists whose pedagogical innovations challenged the dominant paradigms of their respective eras. Despite differences in temporal context, worldview, and methodology, both figures offered transformative models of education rooted in moral, aesthetic, and spiritual development. Tagore's Shantiniketan emerged as a counter-colonial cultural space that prioritized imagination, ecological harmony, and artistic expression, while Baba's "Educare" framework integrated human values into contemporary educational structures to cultivate inner transformation alongside academic growth. The study explores their educational philosophies, institutional practices, and broader socio-cultural contributions, emphasizing how both Tagore and Baba redefined education as a tool for personal enlightenment and social reform. By placing them within the broader discourses of pedagogy and reform in modern India, the paper highlights their complementary roles in bridging tradition and modernity, spirituality and rationality, and individuality and collective responsibility.

Keywords: Spiritual Pedagogy, Value-based learning, Educare, holistic learning, EHV, 3HV.

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Green Minds for a Green Planet: NLP-Based Approaches to Adolescent Mental Health and Environmental Engagement

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Abstract

Adolescence is a critical developmental stage marked by profound cognitive, emotional, and behavioral transformations. Globally, mental health concerns among adolescents are escalating due to academic, social, and environmental pressures. This review examines how Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP), a behavioral and cognitive intervention, can promote both adolescent mental health and environmental consciousness. The potential of techniques like anchoring, reframing, and future pacing to improve emotional regulation, self-efficacy, and pro-environmental motivation is investigated. For instance, anchoring happy emotional states to environmentally friendly activities, reframing environmental obstacles as leadership chances, and envisioning a sustainable future via future pacing can enable young people to match personal development with environmental stewardship. By promoting mental clarity and good behavioral modeling, NLP helps to be a key instrument in both psychological development and environmental responsibility by incorporating cognitive-behavioral approaches with environmental education. By fostering mental clarity and strong behavioral modeling, NLP emerges as a potential tool for environmental stewardship and psychological growth. Integrating psychological, educational, and ecological viewpoints, this approach promotes a new framework for developing 'green minds,' or adolescents with mental resiliency and environmental awareness prepared to flourish in and actively help to create a sustainable future.

Keywords: Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP), Adolescent Mental Health, Environmental Engagement, Green Minds, Psychological Resilience, and Sustainable Development.

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Ethical Leadership and Spiritual Intelligence in Corporate Communication: A Strategic Imperative for Sustainable Business Culture

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Abstract

The 21st century has ushered in a complex corporate environment characterized by rapid technological advancements, globalization, socio-political instability, and a renewed emphasis on ethics and human values. In such a volatile context, corporate communication plays a crucial role in shaping organizational identity, stakeholder trust, and sustainable business practices. This paper explores the intersection of ethical leadership and spiritual intelligence as pivotal tools for enhancing corporate communication in addressing these contemporary challenges. Ethical leadership, grounded in principles of integrity, fairness, and accountability, fosters a transparent organizational culture that prioritizes ethical behavior and stakeholder engagement. Spiritual intelligence, on the other hand, provides leaders with the capacity to navigate complex moral landscapes, demonstrate empathy, and align corporate practices with deeper human values. This paper explores the relationship between ethical leadership and spiritual intelligence in shaping effective, value-driven corporate communication, followed by a qualitative analysis of case studies from multinational corporations known for their ethical and spiritually intelligent leadership practices. The findings highlight how leaders who embody both ethical and spiritual qualities are better equipped to foster open communication, resolve conflicts, manage diversity, and drive ethical decision-making. The synergy between ethical leadership and spiritual intelligence contributes to the development of resilient communication strategies that are not only effective but also human-centric. This paper argues that the integration of these constructs into leadership development programs and corporate communication policies can significantly enhance organizational performance and societal impact to advance sustainable business outcomes in the 21st century. Practical recommendations are proposed for business leaders, communicators, and educators to foster ethical and spiritually intelligent leadership.

Keywords: Ethical leadership, spiritual intelligence, corporate communication, integrity, organizational culture, trust.

Caste, Gender and Identity: Life stories of Dalit women in Higher Education

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Abstract

This paper focuses on the spiritual journey of Kaushalya Pawar as narrated in her autobiographical work 'Bandhwanon ke Beech'. The text reflects the deep struggles of a Dalit woman born into the oppressive realities of caste and gender-based hierarchies in Indian society. Pawar's early experiences of exclusion, humiliation, and identity crisis within the Hindu social order push her to seek spiritual and social liberation. Inspired by the revolutionary ideas of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, she embraces Buddhism not only as a religion but as a path to reclaim dignity, equality, and self-worth. Her conversion marks a powerful shift from internalized oppression to spiritual awakening, where Buddhism becomes both a refuge and a tool of resistance. Pawar's narrative is not just a personal journey but a collective voice for Dalit women, illustrating how spirituality can empower marginalized individuals to challenge systemic injustices and construct a liberated identity. The paper argues that there needs to be inclusion of such testimonies and narratives in educational pedagogy of psychology and its praxis in diverse forms.

Keywords: Caste, Gender, Identity, Humiliation, Spirituality.

Transcending the Familial Barriers for Reclaiming Identities: A Study of Women Characters in Namita Gokhale's *Gods, Graves and Grandmother*

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Abstract

This research paper explores the theme of identity reclamation through the lens of familial and societal constraints in Namita Gokhale's novel *Gods, Graves and Grandmother*. The narrative centers around women who navigate a patriarchal and often indifferent social structure that seeks to define them by traditional roles and expectations. By focusing on the protagonist Ammi, Gudiya, and other key female characters, the study examines how these women resist the limitations imposed by family, class, and cultural norms in their journey toward self-realization and autonomy. Gokhale portrays the act of reclaiming identity as a deeply personal process, intertwined with resistance, resilience, and the redefinition of womanhood. Drawing upon feminist literary theory, this paper argues that Gokhale's characters transcend the confinements of their inherited identities to assert individual agency and voice. The analysis ultimately highlights how *Gods, Graves and Grandmother* serves as a nuanced commentary on female empowerment and the ongoing struggle for selfhood in contemporary Indian society.

Key Words: Society, Culture, Family, Subordination, Resistance, Identity.

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The Impact of Educational Policies on Holistic and Sustainable Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study explores the impact of educational policies on holistic and sustainable development in Nigeria, using Human Capital Theory and Sustainable Development Theory as its conceptual foundation. It analyzes how education policies have been strategically formulated to address national development challenges while also promoting inclusive growth, environmental consciousness, and social cohesion. Central to the research is the examination of key policy frameworks such as the National Policy on Education (2013), the Universal Basic Education Programme, and the Education for Change Strategic Plan. These policies are designed to foster human capacity, economic productivity, and responsible citizenship. However, the study reveals a persistent disconnect between policy formulation and implementation, primarily due to inadequate funding, poor governance, regional disparities, and infrastructural deficits. The paper further evaluates the role of education in promoting holistic development, emphasizing life skills, civic engagement, and emotional intelligence, particularly in formal and non-formal learning environments. Additionally, the research identifies the critical importance of integrating sustainability principles, peace education, and entrepreneurship into the national curriculum to foster long-term development outcomes. Based on these findings, the study suggests increased education funding, robust institutional monitoring mechanisms, inclusive curriculum reform, and continuous teacher development. Overall, the study underscores that education remains a powerful catalyst for sustainable and holistic development in Nigeria. However, achieving its transformative potential requires coherent, inclusive, and context-sensitive implementation strategies aligned with national priorities and global development agendas.

Keywords: Educational policy, Holistic development, Human Capital Theory Nigeria, Sustainable development.

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On The Solution of Euler-Bernoulli Beam Resting on Elastic Foundation with Variable Axial Force

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Abstract:

In this paper, the effect on the solution of euler-bernoulli beam resting on elastic foundation with variable axial force is studied. The governing equation of fourth order partial differential equation was reduced to an ordinary differential equation using integral numerical method with series representation of Heaviside function. The dynamic responses of the beam in terms of normalized deflection and bending moment has been investigated for different velocity ratios under moving load and moving mass conditions. Generally, closed-form solution to the generalized mathematical model for prismatic beam was computed by means of symbolic programming approach through MAPLE 18.
This work clearly revealed that axial force has a significant effect on dynamic analysis of Euler-Bernoulli beam resting on elastic foundation. The results show that the dynamic response of the beam at different values of $\mu = 10kgm^{-1}, 20kgm^{-1}, 30kgm^{-1}$, the dynamic response of the beam increases as the length of the load increases.

Keywords: axial force, elastic foundation, foundation stiffness, Integral-numerical method, moving load.

Anthropogenic Stressors And Their Impacts On Asa River Water Quality

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Abstract

With approximately 199 million citizens, most Nigerians still lack access to clean drinking water. Situated in Ilorin, Nigeria, the Asa River is an essential source of water for industrial, agricultural, and residential uses. The Asa River's water quality has declined due to a number of human activities. This has made the river unsafe for downstream consumption as well as detrimental to ecosystems. This work therefore sought to study the anthropogenic stressors and their impact on the water quality of Asa River. Monthly *insitu* surveillance of the river at five different locations was adopted for this study. Observed agricultural activities, commercial activities, ritual activities, industrial discharge and refuse dump within the vicinity of Asa River at different locations were found to be major anthropogenic stressors causing spatial variation and impairment of the river's water quality. Asa River water needs treatment to address aesthetics issues and foul smell before domestic use.

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Impact of Performing Arts on Individual Health management - A perspective of classical dancer as a dance practitioner

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Abstract

Classical dance is both an art form and a holistic practice. It brings about manifold approaches to health and wellness. This paper delves into its deep impact on all aspects of health and wellness, from the physical to the mental, emotional and social, spiritual growth and the ability of classical dance to intervene in many health challenges. Classical dance enhances physical health through improved muscular strength, flexibility, posture, and cardiovascular fitness. Mentally, it sharpens focus, reduces stress, and fosters emotional resilience. Emotionally and socially, it serves as a medium for self-expression and community building, and in a spiritual sense, connects practitioners to their sense of purpose and to divinity. For the practitioner, classical dance is a lifelong journey of discovering self and well-being. Thus, it remains a powerful tool for achieving and sustaining personal and communal transformation.

Key words: Health, Wellness, Dance, Expression, Spiritual growth, Fitness, Divinity.

Plant Diversity of Greater Howly Area of Barpeta District of Assam

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Abstract:

The greater Howly area of Barpeta district is rich in biodiversity. The paper records 103 plants under 47 families form the study area. Some of the plants are economically very important. From the study area out of 103 plant species 34 are fruit plants, 33 timber yielding plants and 36 medicinal plants have been recorded in this paper.

Key words: Plant diversity, Howly area, Barpeta district.

Theatre and Ritualistic Storytelling: Performing Faith in Modern World

Renu Garg

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Abstract

In the age of spiritual pluralism and digital change, theatre has become a dynamic platform for ritual storytelling that performs, re-envisions, and reaffirms religion. This article explores how new theatre makers in India and the Indian diaspora stage ritual dramaturgy to articulate sacred belief systems and negotiate socio-political anxieties and economies of creation. Taking a qualitative, interpretivist stance, the research is informed by case studies of three theater collectives through digital ethnography, interviews, and portfolio analysis. The findings highlight that ritual in performance now serves not merely as spiritual expression but also as aesthetic resistance and entrepreneurial innovation. The article presents the idea of entrepreneurial ritualism and suggests a Sacred–Performative Spectrum to situate hybrid sacred performances in the post-secular era. Through the synthesis of performance theory, affect studies, and cultural entrepreneurship, this research contributes to the reconceptualization of the intersections of religion, art, and identity in the 21st century.

Keywords: Ritual Theatre, Performing Faith, Cultural Entrepreneurship, Post-Secular Aesthetics, Digital Ethnography.

Harmonies of Healing: The Role of Music Therapy as a Complementary Approach in Holistic Health and Chronic Illness Management

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Abstract

Music therapy, a clinically grounded and evidence-based intervention, is gaining prominence as a complementary approach in holistic healthcare. This paper addressed the scientific foundations, therapeutic mechanisms, and multidimensional benefits of music therapy in managing chronic illnesses. Drawing from neurophysiological research, clinical case studies, and cross-cultural perspectives, it described how music interventions can enhance emotional well-being, reduce physiological stress, and improve quality of life. Music therapy serves not only as a supplement to conventional treatments but also as a bridge between ancient healing traditions and modern integrative medicine. By addressing the physical, emotional, cognitive, and spiritual dimensions of health, music therapy provides a personalized and gentle approach that promotes resilience and supports holistic recovery. Despite implementation challenges, its growing acceptance in patient-cantered care models shows its transformative role in managing chronic disease and promoting holistic healing.

Keywords: Music Therapy, chronic illness, emotional well-being, integrative medicine, holistic healthcare, neurophysiological mechanisms.

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Literature as a Path to Spiritual Awakening: Insights from Indian Scriptures, Saints, and Sacred Poetry

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Abstract

This paper studies the transformative role of literature in fostering spiritual awakening and personal growth, with a focus on Indian spiritual traditions. Drawing from sacred texts such as the *Upanishads* and the *Bhagavad Gita*, devotional poetry like the *Vachanas*, and the life stories of saints and mystics, the study highlights how literature transcends the transmission of knowledge to become a deeply personal and spiritual experience. These works engage readers not only through philosophical depth and symbolic richness but also by speaking directly to the heart, prompting reflection, self-inquiry, and a reorientation of values. By exploring themes such as ego, surrender, inner peace, and the search for meaning, they offer a timeless framework for ethical living and self-realization. The paper also considers how the oral and performative traditions surrounding these texts enhance their emotional and spiritual impact. In an age of distraction and disconnection, such literature serves as a grounding force encouraging mindfulness, compassion, and an inward journey that remains deeply relevant today. The study affirms that spiritual literature can awaken a deeper awareness of the self and inspire lasting transformation in the way we perceive and engage with the world.

Keywords: Spiritual literature, Bhagavad Gita, Upanishads, Vachanas, Transformation, Mindfulness, Compassion.

The Intersection of Social Identity, Normative Influence, And Political Efficacy: A Literature Review of Cambodian Youth in National Elections

Sovanna Huot

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Abstract

This conceptual review examines how social identity and normative influence intersect with political efficacy to shape Cambodian youth's engagement in national elections. Drawing from social psychology and political science, the paper explores how group affiliations, such as ethnic, political, and generational identities, interact with normative pressures from families, peers, and communities to influence both internal efficacy, confidence in understanding politics, and external efficacy, belief in institutional responsiveness. The findings indicate that youth embedded in politically active networks or aligned with activist movements exhibit stronger political efficacy and greater engagement, while those in disengaged environments often show apathy and reduced participation. These insights carry critical implications for Cambodia's democratic trajectory. Fostering youth political participation requires more than information, it demands the cultivation of collective democratic identities and supportive social norms. Civic education must engage families and local communities, while youth organizations should leverage peer influence and digital platforms to foster inclusive, participatory spaces. Future research should include longitudinal studies to examine how political efficacy evolves over time, comparative analyses across Southeast Asia, and focused inquiries into rural–urban disparities and the role of online political communities. Ultimately, this review offers a framework for understanding and enhancing youth political engagement in Cambodia, contributing to broader efforts to sustain democratic development in post-authoritarian societies.

Keywords: Social identity, normative influence, political efficacy, youth political engagement, Cambodia, political behaviours.

Circular Economy: Pathway To Sustainable Development

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Abstract

The circular economy (CE) has emerged as a transformative model to achieve sustainable development by decoupling economic growth from resource depletion. Unlike the traditional linear economy, which follows a "take-make-dispose" approach, the CE emphasizes resource efficiency, waste minimization, and systemic innovation. This research article explores how the circular economy serves as a pathway to sustainable development by analyzing its environmental, economic, and social benefits. Environmental benefits include significant reductions in carbon emissions, conservation of finite resources, and minimized landfill dependence. Economically, CE enhances cost efficiency, fosters innovation, and generates employment, particularly in remanufacturing and repair industries. Socially, it promotes public health, equitable resource access, and inclusive growth by formalizing informal waste economies. However, transitioning to CE faces challenges, including infrastructural gaps, policy inconsistencies, consumer behaviour inertia, and high initial investment costs. Overcoming these barriers requires robust policy frameworks, financial incentives, technological advancements, and cross-sector collaboration. The paper further highlights CE's alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Overall, the study underscores CE as a transformative strategy to reconcile economic progress with planetary boundaries, urging immediate and systemic action.

Keywords: Circular economy, Sustainable development, Resource efficiency, Waste reduction, SDGs.

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Inner Calm: The Transformative Power of Meditation and Contemplative Practices in Stress Reduction

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Abstract

In an increasingly fast-paced and demanding world, stress has become a common feature of modern life. From workplace pressure to personal responsibilities, individuals constantly grapple with mental and emotional strain. Amid various strategies for managing stress, meditation and contemplative practices have emerged as powerful tools. These ancient practices offer a path not only to relaxation but also to deep mental clarity and emotional balance. Stress, while a natural physiological response, can become harmful when chronic. Prolonged stress contributes to a range of health issues, including anxiety, depression, cardiovascular problems, and weakened immunity. It affects both the mind and body, disrupting sleep, concentration, and overall well-being. Therefore, effective stress management is essential for maintaining health and quality of life. Meditation is a practice that encourages focused attention, awareness, and a calm mental state. Techniques such as mindfulness meditation, transcendental meditation, and loving-kindness meditation have gained widespread popularity due to their measurable benefits. Research indicates that regular meditation reduces cortisol levels (the primary stress hormone), enhances emotional regulation, and promotes a sense of peace. Mindfulness meditation, in particular, trains individuals to observe their thoughts and emotions without judgment. This non-reactive awareness helps prevent overthinking and reduces the intensity of stressful experiences. Beyond meditation, contemplative practices like prayer, journaling, deep breathing, and nature walks also contribute to stress reduction. These practices encourage introspection and a deeper connection with oneself and the world. They help individuals slow down, reflect, and foster resilience in the face of challenges. Spiritual contemplation, regardless of religious affiliation, can also provide a sense of purpose and meaning, which acts as a buffer against stress. Numerous studies support the efficacy of meditation and contemplative practices. Neuroscientific research shows changes in brain regions related to emotion regulation, attention, and self-awareness in those who meditate regularly. These practices are also being integrated into clinical settings, schools, and workplaces as preventive and therapeutic tools. Incorporating just a few minutes of daily meditation or reflection can significantly enhance one's ability to manage stress and maintain mental health. Meditation and contemplative practices offer more than temporary relief and they cultivate a lasting sense of inner peace and emotional strength. By promoting mindfulness, self-awareness, and compassion, they empower individuals to respond to life's challenges with clarity and calm. In the journey toward holistic well-being, these practices are invaluable allies.

Keywords: - Stress, Meditation, Therapeutic, Significantly, Contemplative.

प्रकृति और हिंदी साहित्य

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Abstract

समाज साहित्य और साहित्यकार की धुरी बिंदु एक ही है और वह है जीव जगत। साहित्य जगत की ऐसी कोई कृति नहीं जो जीवन और प्रकृति से विलग हो। दरअसल प्रकृति और पुरुष साहित्य के अहलाद को चरमोत्कर्ष पर पंहुचाकर साधक को सौंदर्यानुभूति व आनंदानुभूति से साक्षात्कार कराते हैं। हिंदी साहित्य की प्रत्येक कृति में प्रकृति विद्यमान है। अनेक कवियों के साहित्य का मूल विषय ही प्रकृति रहा है। प्रकृति अनुराग द्वारा पर्यावरण संरक्षण का संदेश प्रत्यक्ष व अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से निरंतर संप्रेषित करने का दायित्व हिंदी साहित्यकार बखूबी निभा रहे हैं। छायावाद हिंदी साहित्य में प्रकृति प्रेम का एक युग माना गया है। प्रकृति और पुरुष के सूक्ष्म संबंधों को दर्शाता, हिंदी साहित्य प्रकृतिवाद से भी प्रभावित रहा। प्रकृति के प्रति अनुराग साहित्य में निरंतर प्रत्येक युग में परिलक्षित होता रहा है। सभ्यता-संस्कृति व परंपराओं को साहित्य में शब्दबद्ध करते समय पर्यावरण के प्रति आसक्ति स्पष्टतः दृष्टिगत होती है। आदिकाल में रासो साहित्य, सिद्ध, नाथ व जैन साहित्य, भक्ति का स्वर्णयुग; प्रकृति व पर्यावरण जैसे वर्ण्य-विषय से मुक्त न रह पाया क्योंकि भारतीय धर्म व्यवस्था में प्रकृति को पूजनीय माना है यही कारण है कि वन -लताओं का वर्णन भक्ति, प्रेम, रौद्र प्रत्येक रूप में ग्राह्य बन गया। रीतिकाल में नायिका के सौंदर्य व प्रेम को उद्दीप्त करने का माध्यम प्रकृति को बनाया गया। आधुनिक काल में भारतेंदु युग, द्विवेदी युग प्रकृति प्रेम से अनुरक्त रहा; वहीं छायावाद में प्रकृति प्रेम चरम पर रहा किंतु विज्ञान व आधुनिकीकरण के परिणामस्वरूप प्रकृति से छेड़छाड़ व उसके प्रति उदासीनता के प्रति गहन चिंतन वर्तमान कृतियों में परिलक्षित हुआ। वर्तमान में अनेक साहित्यकर्मी प्रकृति व पर्यावरण संरक्षण के प्रति उत्तरदायित्वों के निर्वहन में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका अदा कर रहे हैं।

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Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur India
International Council for Education, Research and Training (ICERT), India & USA

"She Was Never Asked": Female Sexuality, Ownership, and Resistance in South Asian Narratives from the Mahabharata to Manto

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Abstract

This research undertakes a transhistorical feminist inquiry into the regulation and representation of female sexuality in two distinct yet thematically aligned narrative traditions: the Mahabharata and Saadat Hasan Manto's Partition-era short stories. Both texts expose a deeply ingrained patriarchal logic that controls, commodifies, and symbolically weaponizes women's bodies and sexual agency despite their temporal and cultural distance. The female body is positioned as property in the Mahabharata, especially in the Sabha Parva episode of Draupadi's Vastra Haran, where it is used to symbolize political repercussions, validate dharma, and reflect male honor. Ritual, silence, and divine intervention erase Draupadi's agency, making her sexual violation collateral damage in a male-driven quest for power and vengeance. On the other hand, women who are clearly rooted in the periphery of society as prostitutes but who nevertheless display complex emotional lives, personal agency, and moral ambiguity are portrayed in Manto's short stories (Hatak, Maḥmūda, Mozel, and others). Manto's characters defy patriarchal expectations by embodying a raw humanity and quiet defiance, rejecting idealized victimhood or purity. His tales expose society's moral hypocrisy as well as the demeaning labels placed on women who are considered "fallen." Manto's realism reveals the lived trauma, resiliency, and contradictions of such women, whereas classical literature uses mythology to silence their voices. This comparative study shows how both texts use different narrative techniques—mythic abstraction versus unflinching realism—while also reflecting and upholding social structures that marginalize women. The study reclaims Manto's women from the periphery of literary and moral opinion by presenting them as early feminists, contending that their displays of dignity, resistance, and desire constitute an early critique of gendered oppression. In the end, this study highlights how literature can both uphold and challenge patriarchal standards and calls for a reconsideration of classic works as disputed cultural artifacts that influence and are influenced by gender politics rather than as unchanging truths.

Keywords: Feminist Literary Criticism, Partition Literature, Gendered Violence, Myth vs. Realism, Objectification of Women.

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Continuity and Change in Hmar Death Rituals and Afterlife Beliefs: A Study of Pre-and Post-Christian Influences

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Abstract

The Hmar, an indigenous ethnic group predominantly inhabiting regions of Northeast India – particularly in Mizoram, Tripura, Manipur, and Assam-possess a rich cultural heritage with deeply rooted customs and rituals. Among these, death rituals hold significant importance, reflecting both spirituals beliefs and communal values. In Hmar culture, death is not seen as a cessation of life, but rather a transition to another realm, often involving the belief in the continuation of the soul and its journey to the world of the dead. This perspective aligns with both traditional and Christian views. Traditionally guided by animistic cosmology, the Hmar conceptualized death as a passage to *mithi huo* the land of the dead, with the possibility of eventual ascent to *pielral* (paradise) for the valorous and honourable. For the Hmar elders, whose lives were shaped by agricultural labor and substinence, the vision of heaven was a place where physical toil ceased and abundance prevailed. It is imagined as a realm where one would find eternal rest and plentiful food-a simple yet profoundly meaningful continuation of earthly comforts. The nature and scale of a person's funeral are not only influenced by the way a person lived their life but also by the manner of their death. In the wake of British colonization and the advent of Christianity in the early 20th century, the Hmar society experienced a profound transformation, especially in their approach to death and the afterlife. Hmar spiritual life was characterized by polytheism, featuring a pantheon of spirits and deities who were believed to dwell in nature and interact with the living world. While many overtly animistic practices have ceased, some traditional customs surrounding death and mourning have been adapted to fit within the Christian framework. By examining ritual practices, cosmological beliefs, and their transformation over time, this paper highlights both cultural resilience and religious adaptation.

Keywords- Hmar, Death, Rituals, Christianity, Northeast India, Animistic, Spirituality, Transformation.

From Emissions to Equity: Legal and Ethical Frontiers of Climate Change Governance

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Abstract

Climate change represents one of the most pressing global challenges of the 21st century, posing complex legal and ethical dilemmas that transcend national borders. Rising global temperatures—1.1°C above pre-industrial levels as of 2023 according to the IPCC—are linked to increased frequency of extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and ecosystem disruptions, which in turn raise critical questions about accountability, equity, and justice. Legally, climate change has spurred a growing body of international and domestic litigation, with over 2,500 climate-related lawsuits filed globally as of 2024. Courts in several jurisdictions, including the Netherlands and Germany, have held governments accountable for failing to meet emissions targets, setting important precedents in climate jurisprudence.

The Paris Agreement (2015), legally binding on its 195 signatories, aims to limit global warming to well below 2°C. However, global emissions continue to rise, with CO_2 concentrations reaching 419 ppm in 2023—the highest in over 3 million years. Ethical concerns arise over the disproportionate impact on low-income nations and future generations. Africa, responsible for less than 4% of global emissions, faces some of the worst consequences, such as severe droughts and food insecurity, highlighting the principle of climate justice.

Moreover, corporations are increasingly scrutinized under Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) frameworks, facing both ethical obligations and legal exposure for contributing to climate degradation. The emergence of "climate disclosure" laws, such as the SEC's proposed climate risk rules in the U.S., marks a shift toward regulatory accountability.

This paper explores the evolving legal landscape and ethical frameworks surrounding climate change, analyzing key international agreements, litigation trends, and the role of corporate responsibility. It argues for a more robust integration of ethical imperatives into legal mechanisms to ensure both environmental protection and intergenerational equity, emphasizing the urgent need for enforceable global cooperation.

Key words: Climate Justice, Environmental Law, Ethical Responsibility, Climate Litigation, Sustainability Governance.

Yoga as a Transformative Practice in Actor Training

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Abstract

This paper explores the integration of yogic disciplines—particularly asana (physical posture), pranayama (breath control), and dhyana (meditative focus)—into contemporary actor training as a means of developing heightened psychophysical awareness. In the demanding terrain of performance, the actor's body and breath serve as fundamental instruments. Yogic practices offer structured methods for cultivating balance, presence, and sustained focus, fostering a deeper alignment between physical action and inner intention.

The study further examines how yoga functions as a transformative process within training, encouraging emotional regulation, mental clarity, and resilience. Moving beyond the mechanics of technique, it considers the actor's journey as a form of sadhana—a disciplined path of self-refinement. Drawing on interdisciplinary sources from performance theory, Indian aesthetics, and embodied practice, this paper argues that yoga is not merely a supplementary exercise but a potent, holistic methodology that prepares the actor to meet the demands of creation, rehearsal, and performance with integrity and vitality.

Keywords: Actor Training, Yoga and Performance, Psychophysical Awareness, Pranayama and Asana, Transformative Pedagogy.

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Designing an Integrated Framework for AI Readiness Assessment, Enterprise-wide Adoption Enhancement, and ML Algorithm

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Abstract

This presentation introduces a comprehensive and integrated framework to tackle the challenges organizations face when adopting artificial intelligence (AI). As AI continues to reshape industries by enhancing productivity, decision-making, and innovation, many organizations still struggle with fragmented and inconsistent adoption strategies. To bridge this gap, this presentation outlines a structured approach that integrates AI readiness assessment, enterprise-wide AI adoption strategies, and machine learning (ML) algorithm selection, providing organizations with a clear roadmap for successful AI integration. The presentation is organized around three key pillars that collectively address the full spectrum of AI adoption needs. The first pillar, AI Readiness Assessment, focuses on evaluating an organization's current state in terms of technological capabilities, data maturity, workforce skills, and organizational culture. Through this lens, the presentation explores methods to identify strengths and weaknesses that may influence the success of AI initiatives. Participants will gain insights into how to systematically assess their readiness, prioritize areas for improvement, and establish a strong foundation for AI transformation. The second pillar, Enterprise-Wide AI Adoption Enhancement, emphasizes strategies to foster a culture of innovation, collaboration, and continuous learning across the entire organization. The presentation delves into practical ways to overcome common barriers such as resistance to change, data silos, and skill shortages. Attendees will learn how to align AI initiatives with business goals, create cross-functional teams, and leverage leadership buy-in to drive momentum. By focusing on building an AI-friendly ecosystem, this section provides actionable steps to embed AI into day-to-day operations effectively and sustainably. The third pillar, Machine Learning Algorithm Selection, highlights the importance of selecting the right algorithms tailored to an organization's specific business context, data characteristics, and performance requirements. The presentation guides participants through key considerations such as interpretability, scalability, and resource constraints. By demystifying algorithm selection, this segment empowers organizations to make informed decisions that align both technically and strategically with their AI initiatives. Methodologically, the presentation combines real-world case studies, best practices, and interactive discussions to ensure relevance and engagement. By integrating insights from industry examples and practical frameworks, it moves beyond theory to provide actionable recommendations that organizations can implement immediately. The expected outcome of this presentation is to equip participants with a comprehensive understanding of how to assess their AI readiness, design effective adoption strategies, and select appropriate machine learning algorithms. Ultimately, it aims to empower organizations to navigate the complexities of AI integration with confidence, accelerating their journey towards digital transformation and enhanced competitiveness. In conclusion, this presentation serves as a practical guide for organizations seeking to harness the transformative potential of AI. By addressing AI readiness, adoption enhancement, and algorithm selection in a cohesive manner, it provides a structured roadmap for achieving AI maturity and embedding AI into the core of organizational operations. Attendees will leave with actionable insights and a clear framework to guide their AI adoption journey, fostering long-term success in the ever-evolving AI landscape.

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