### Link for Registration and Abstract Submission : Google form link

https://forms.gle/L6sshSGWSuYKbjBF6

Please mail your abstract via this Google form only.

Select papers shall be published as conference proceedings by a reputed international publisher.

**Deadline for full paper submission :** September 5th 2024. Email address for full paper submission: dduguenglishseminar2024@gmail.com

### **REGISTRATION FEE**

For Teachers:Rs. 2000/-For Students & Research Scholars:Rs. 1500/-For queries, further information and assistance, please email us at<br/>dduguenglishseminar2024@gmail.com or call at 9935279769

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# **Department of English**

Organizes

ICSSR Sponsored Two-Day International Conference

on

## Environmental and Apocalyptic Imagination : Ecocritical Readings in South Asian Literature

19-20 September 2024

Hybrid Mode



The proposed conference takes off from the belief that there is an urgent need to deliberate on the shared environmental predicament of South Asia and to look for possible solutions thereof, in the robust environmental consciousness embedded in our vibrant literary and philosophical traditions. The seminar aims at connecting the apocalyptic imagination contained in the scriptural and secular literature of the subcontinent with the issues relevant to the current environmental crisis. The abandonment of a whole cultural worldview based on a symbiotic coexistence with nature and the simultaneous adoption of a lifestyle based on the materialist, capitalist, utilitarian nexus has had manifold unwelcome consequences for our environment. The conference looks forward to evolving a pro-active blueprint for securing the future of our species in the face of looming environmental catastrophe.

The G20 conference in 2023 concluded with the New Delhi Declaration which underscored the intrinsic conviction and well-being of the future generations. The major headway in this direction was made by the assertion of our commitment of the Green Development Project which is an integral part of New Delhi Leader's Declaration (NDLD). The Green Development Pact provides "pathways for nations in their journey towards achieving the energy, climate, environment and disaster resilience related objectives." Thie NITI Ayog also organized a workshop on Green Development Pact. Under the Indian Presidency, the G 20- 2023 focused on the theme of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakamor "One Earth. One Family, One Future." The theme affirms "the values of humans, animals, plants and microorganisms and their interconnectedness on planet Earth." These values and concerns have been constitutive of our civilizational wisdom and our literatureancient down to contemporary-and have embodied the human commitment to conserve, protect, sustain and restore the ecosystem. One of the core issues to be addressed in the proposed conference is the exploration of our environmental commitment as reflected in our literature and culture.

The Indian subcontinent has had a rich and vibrant literary and philosophical tradition. Within South Asia, despite local variations and differences of religion, language, history and culture, there is a pronounced continuity and commonality in terms of shared pasts and cultural production. India is not just the largest country presently in terms of geographical expanse and demographic magnitude but is also the parent body out of which the other two countries of Pakistan and Bangladesh were carved out. The Buddhist past of the subcontinent connects Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Bhutan to India, while the avowedly Hindu credentials of Nepal connect it to India. In terms of literary, philosophical, environmental, ethical, rhetorical, liturgical, homiletic. soteriological, epistemological, eschatological and apocalyptic imagination, there are substantial crossovers and overlaps between the ancient, classical and contemporary literature. The conference looks forward to developing and integrative and holistic perspective on the evolution of environmental concerns in South Asia. All civilizations and cultures in their formative, pre-industrial and pre-technological phase were dependent on nature and natural cycles for their survival. These societies and cultures adopted different strategies for the protection and conservation of the ecosystem. Different forms of animism, pantheism and fertility cults were a constant common feature in traditional societies. Spirits pervaded nature and human life was deeply suffused with natural pieties. In art and literature, nature provided the animating metaphors of a life lived in harmony with nature.

The conference shall explore but is not limited to the following subthemes and topics:

- Nature, Culture, Ecology and Ecocritical Perspective in South Asian Literary Imagination
- Climate Change and Environmental Crisis
- Imagining the Apocalypse
- Ecofeminism
- Idea of Wilderness in South Asian Culture
- Environmental Ethics and Indigenous Knowledge
- Environmentalism in the Epics and Sangam Literature
- Environmental Justice and Activism
- Precarity, Environmental Refugees and Displacement
- Planetarity, Planetary Crisis and Planetary Solidarity
- Plant Humanities, Blue Humanities, Hydrofiction and Cli-fi
- Plastic Pollution, Plasticity and the Plastic Turn
- Mythology and Folklore in South Asian Ecological Consciousness
- Apocalyptic Vision in Buddhist Literature
- Urbanization and Waste Management and Its Impact on Nature
- Religious and Spiritual Dimensions of Nature
- Animal Rights and Representations, the non-Human turn
- Green Diplomacy, Sustainable Action and G20
- Apocalyptic Narratives and End-Time Scenarios
- Landscape and Postcolonial Ecologies
- Imagining Alternative Futures

#### **Guidelines for Abstract Submission**

Abstract of approximately 250 words should be sent latest by July 31<sup>st</sup> 2024. Please include the author info including name, affiliation, address, and contact details in the same file.