



Annual Conference Series
First International Conference
on

Contemporary Challenges to Indian State and Society

Jointly organised by National Institute of Advanced Studies and Christ University, Bengaluru
November 15-17, 2017

About National Institute of Advanced Studies

The National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) was conceived and founded in 1988 by the late Mr J. R. D. Tata, who sought to create an institution to conduct advanced multidisciplinary research. Housed in a picturesque green campus in Bangalore the Institute serves as a forum to bring together individuals from diverse intellectual backgrounds. They include administrators and managers from industry and government, leaders in public affairs, eminent individuals in different walks of life, and academicians from different disciplines.

The philosophy underlying NIAS is given shape by its research teams, which are drawn from a variety of disciplines in the natural and social sciences, humanities and the arts. The Institute is unique in its integrated approach to the study of intersections between science and technology, philosophy, social issues and leadership. The objective is to nurture a broad base of scholars, managers and leaders who would respond to the complex challenges that face contemporary India and global society, with insight, sensitivity, confidence and dedication.

NIAS has an active programme of public lectures, regional, national and international conferences, symposia and seminars, organised independently or jointly with other institutions, that focus on topical areas of research and public concern.

About Christ University

Christ University was born out of the educational vision of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara, an educationalist and social reformer of the nineteenth century in southern India. He founded the first Catholic indigenous congregation, the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI), in 1831, which administers Christ University.

Established in 1969 as Christ College, the institution undertook path-breaking initiatives in Indian higher education with the introduction of innovative and modern curricula, insistence on academic discipline, imparting of Holistic Education and adoption of global higher education practices, with the support of a creative and dedicated staff. The University Grants Commission

(UGC) of India conferred autonomy to Christ College in 2004 and identified it as an Institution with Potential for Excellence in 2006. In 2008, under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956, the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Government of India declared the institution a Deemed University, in the name and style of Christ University. One of the first institutions in India to be accredited in 1998 by the NAAC and subsequently, in 2004 and 2016, Christ University has a top grade 'A' in the 4-point scale.

The multidisciplinary University, which focuses on teaching, research and service, offers undergraduate to doctoral degrees in the humanities, social sciences, science, commerce, management, engineering, education and law, to well over 18,000 students. The campus is a living example of harmonious multiculturalism, with students from all states of India and from around sixty different countries. Christ University publishes six peer-reviewed research journals and has published more than 300 books in Kannada and English. A promoter of sports, music and literary activities, it is a nurturing ground for creative excellence in general.

Concept Note

In the era of post-globalisation, the changing economic and political landscape of countries worldwide has ushered in the entry of several emerging economies that will define the new global order of the 21st century. In the process, India is emerging as one of the powerful players in defining the global regime. The rise of India as a global leader is the testimony of the resurgence of this country that can claim to have a demographic dividend. Despite the unprecedented challenges, India has demonstrated its capability to resolve these in more ways than one. The last two decades in India have witnessed several forms of internal and external conflicts at various levels, ranging from across the borders and internal insurgencies to the dramatic changes that are taking place in society amongst institutions of education, family, and religion, amongst others. Widespread environmental degradation and loss of natural habitats have led to escalated human-wildlife conflict, with detrimental effects on human property and loss of both human and non-human lives. More specifically, the political landscape of the country is undergoing significant changes and one can witness unusual responses from the judiciary or from the citizenry to the problems faced by the Indian state.

It is against these larger manifestations that the proposed conference attempts to record our successes, visit some of the stubborn national challenges that we need to understand and respond creatively to in order to forge ahead as global leaders. Among them are the decline of public institutions, disarray in educational systems, loss of our natural resources and cultural heritage, judicial activism and the emergence of multiple identities threatening the stability of the nation state. During the same period, India has witnessed novel and successful experiments in several pockets across the country that have the potential to provide the much-needed direction for effective development. Most of these real-world problems compel an understanding beyond lessons provided by single disciplines, often requiring multidisciplinary approaches to determine

potential solutions. This first meeting of a proposed, interdisciplinary, annual conference series thus invites papers and posters from scholars on the following themes that we believe need to be addressed imperatively.

Given below are the themes and subthemes for this year's Conference

- Education and New Pedagogy
 - ❖ Addressing Inter-group Conflict: Re-looking at History Pedagogy for Peace
 - ❖ Identity, Pedagogy and Universities in India
 - ❖ Diversity and Pedagogy Reforms in Indian Classrooms
 - ❖ Traditional Knowledge and its Relevance for the New Pedagogy
- Internal Conflicts and Challenges
 - ❖ Left-Wing Extremism – the Maoist Conflict
 - ❖ Youth Radicalisation
 - ❖ Religious Fundamentalism
 - ❖ Ethnic Conflicts in Northeast India
- External Security Challenges
 - ❖ External Sources of Threats and Challenges to India's Security
 - ❖ Nuclear Proliferation and India: Trends and Challenges
 - ❖ Space, Technology and India's Security
 - ❖ Geopolitics and Conflict over Natural Resources, including Conflict over Marine Fisheries
 - ❖ Energy Security Challenges
 - ❖ Cybercrime and Cyber Security Challenges
- Anthropological Approaches to the Understanding of State and Everyday Life in India
 - ❖ The State and Local Structures of Power
 - ❖ Governance and the Imagined State
 - ❖ Contesting Power, Resistance and Everyday Social Relations
 - ❖ State, Democracy and the Promise of Civil Society
- Urbanisation of Wildlife and Conservation of India's Natural Heritage
 - ❖ Urbanisation of Wildlife and Loss of Our National Heritage
 - ❖ Wildlife in Anthropogenic Landscapes: Coexistence and Conservation
 - ❖ Urban Wildlife: Understanding and Governing Nonhumans in Indian Cities
- Archaeology, Material Culture and Heritage Science
 - ❖ Material Culture
 - ❖ Landscape Archaeology
 - ❖ Tangible Built Heritage
 - ❖ Intangible Crafts Heritage

Call for Abstracts and Papers

We invite abstracts for paper and poster presentations at the Conference. All manuscripts should be original and unpublished. Although one author can have multiple submissions, each of which can have more than one contributor, each contributor can be the first author of only one submission. The paper must be presented by one of the authors. All manuscripts would be subject to scrutiny by expert committees and only selected papers and posters would be presented during the Conference.

A soft copy of the abstract, in approximately 750 words, APA format and only in MS Word, should be emailed to annualconference@christuniversity.in by April 15, 2017. Kindly include a brief profile of the author/s with E-mail IDs, addresses and contact numbers. Please specify whether the abstract is for a paper or poster presentation and the specific theme and subtheme under which it should be considered. The final manuscript of approximately 5000 words in the APA format must be submitted by September 15, 2017. Certain selected papers would be considered for a subsequent joint publication by the two organising institutions.

Conference Date and Venue

The First International Conference on Contemporary Challenges to Indian State and Society will be held on November 15-17, 2017 at Christ University, Hosur Road, Bengaluru, India.

Important Dates

April 15, 2017	Submission of abstracts
May 15, 2017	Notification of shortlisted authors
September 15, 2017	Submission of complete manuscripts
November 15, 16, 17, 2017	First International Conference on Contemporary Challenges to Indian State and Society Christ University, Hosur Road, Bengaluru India

Chief Patrons:

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Director, NIAS

Dr Anil Joseph Pinto

Registrar, Christ University

Organising Committee

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