



53rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
of  
The Indian Anthropological Society  
&  
INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR  
on  
Man and Environment in India:  
An anthropological approach to  
the development and welfare  
over time and space

on

15 - 17 December, 2023

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR PAPERS

VENUE: BIDHANNAGAR COLLEGE

Jointly Organised by

THE POST - GRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

&

IQAC

BIDHANNAGAR COLLEGE

&

THE INDIAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Convener:

Dr. Sankha Priya Guha, Bidhannagar College

Organizing Secretary:

Dr. Sudesna Chanda, Bidhannagar College.

Dr. Diptendu Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, Indian Anthropological Society

CONCEPT NOTE

The discipline of Anthropology through its unique holistic methodology has laid emphasis on all-inclusive human attributes starting from heredity to diversity of all kinds that have entered into its methodological domain covering multiple representation of society and culture from early times to the contemporary period. The unique bio-cultural approach is the key to such an approach where each sub-specialization of Anthropology plays its part in contributing to the total aspects of origin of man and its diversity, looking at it from the standpoint of biocultural development over time and space.

Biological Anthropology, with the main focus on biocultural development, has, however, been subjected to various environmental challenges over time and space. Human evolution and variation are the two key subject areas of Biological Anthropology which provide the basis of human biological identity. It is widely recognized that human evolution has been driven by two systems of heredity: one DNA- based and the other based on the transmission of behaviourally-acquired characters. The root cause of human diversity is variation as it contributes to the process of evolution and forms the basis of heredity. Variation is caused due to gene mutations, the interaction of genes with environment and various combinations of genetic materials producing differential effects.

Development and welfare are the two most covetable objectives of India to bring about all round well-being of its population. Incidentally, the United Nations Development Programme defines Human Development as “the process of enlarging peoples choices”. The ability to exercise such choices would allow them to “lead a long and healthy life, to be educated, to enjoy a decent standard of living” as well as ensure “political freedom, other guaranteed human rights and various ingredients of self- respect.” The Preamble and the Directive Principles of our State Policy have the moot objective to make India achieve the status of a welfare state. Article 38 of our Constitution reads, “The state shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may, a social order in which justice - social, economic and political shall pervade all institutions of national life.” In a diverse country like India, where cultural specificity marks the social existence of different groups of people, this can hardly be achieved bypassing culture or reducing it to an inconsequential non-entity.

Anthropology in the form of Bio-Cultural Anthropology has much to offer in the field of culture and the way it becomes conditioned by biology and environment. While doing so, it appears as a perfect blend of Biology and Culture within the premise of environment where attributes of heredity and diversity flourish on the one side and culturally-specific development and welfare occupy the other. Anthropologists and other biological and social scientists have been focusing on multiple dimensions of both biological and cultural studies from time- space perspective at the global level in general and India in particular. The Conference provides the opportunity for all of them to come together and exchange ideas. Focal themes, as listed below, will be able to identify the relevant concern areas of Anthropology in the context of today’s India.

SUB THEMES

Man and Environment

Tribal Cultures in India

Indigenous Knowledge system and Sustainable Development

Poverty, Development & Welfare

NGOs, Self – Help Groups & Community Welfare

Gender Studies, Social Hierarchy & Stratification

Migration & Diaspora Studies

Anthropology of Religion

Health, Nutrition and Medical Anthropology

Heredity, Diversity and Genetic Traits

Archaeology & Heritage Management.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS:

Faculties/Scientists/Scholars are invited to submit their abstracts within 300 words in MS-Word format within due date. The abstracts will be selected by the Screening Committee for oral presentation. The abstracts should be sent with Font size 12 in Times New Roman with 1.5 spacing and maximum 5 keywords. These should be sent through email only at [conf society.abstract@gmail.com](mailto:conf society.abstract@gmail.com) by 31.08.2023. The authors should submit the full length paper within due date. Selected papers will be considered for publication.

Important dates:

Date for submission of Abstracts: 01.07.2023 - 31.08.2023

Acceptance of Abstract: 15.09. 2023

Deadline for submission of registration form with Registration Fee: 15.11.2023.

Deadline for submission of full Paper: 30.11.2023.

REGISTRATION LINK THROUGH GOOGLE FORM AND REGISTRATION PAYMENT DETAILS WILL BE NOTIFIED SOON.