

International Conference

on

“Indian Diaspora & Cultural Heritage: Past, Present & Future”

11-13 February, 2015

Indian Council for Cultural Relations is organizing a three day international conference on “**Indian Diaspora & Cultural Heritage: Past, Present & Future**” with an idea to offer a platform to researchers and scholars, particularly the younger generation to share the Indian Diaspora experiences of preserving Indian cultural heritage and develop strategies for promoting it in the future as also strengthening their ties and linkages with India in a contemporary framework.

Concept Note

During the 19th Century, various factors influenced the movement of people from India world over and the present generation of the Indian Diaspora has conserved varied aspects of Indian cultural heritage that their ancestors had taken along with them. Today, this heritage is a part of living culture in many countries across the globe. In the former colonies, the Indian community had to struggle for the retention of its cultural heritage, and often faced different kinds of onslaughts. And yet, they jealously guarded their heritage which is now conserved and practiced with pride by the present generation.

There is a strong urge and need for strengthening the ties between the people of Indian origin in foreign countries and the present Indian generation. This brings in the aspect of understanding each other more closely particularly, amongst the present younger generations to reciprocate the love, affection and quest that the people of Indian origin have towards the homeland of their ancestors. In depth research into the way the Indians sought to preserve their natural environment and culture linked to their inherited religious or cultural beliefs will go a long way in strengthening the existent bonds and ties for the future. In this regard, this Conference will enable the researchers and scholars, particularly, the younger generation to share their history, experiences and efforts with scholars and researchers India and develop strategies for strengthening the ties.

Eminent scholars have been invited to deliver Key note addresses and **the conference will be inaugurated by Hon’ble Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of Government of India.**

Themes A variety of sub-themes have, thus, been identified for scholarly presentations and interaction under the Conference theme:

Major Themes

1. Historical Scenario

Sub Themes

- Indenture and Forced Migration
- Identity Crisis and Identity Formation

- Adaptation to new Environments
- Diverse Colonial Environments – Comparative Assessment
- Conservation and Retention of Cultural Heritage
- Modes of Resistance

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| 2. Retying the Knots, Psychological Affinities and Cultural Exchanges | - The psyche of grief and longing for ancestors/homeland cultural heritage
- Search for roots and family genealogies
- Reviving memories
- Perceptions about each other |
| 3. Religion, Art and Festivals | - Religion and religious practices: Continuity and Change
- Festivals, Customs and Life-Styles: Continuity and Change
- Cultural Assimilation: Jahazi Bhai to Modern Generation
- Dance, Music and Folklore over the years |
| 4. The Current Scenario | - Cultural Exchanges in Performing Arts, Education, Religion and Philosophy
- Yoga and Ayurveda
- Role of Indian Cinema & Sports |
| 5. Retention and Promotional Strategies | - Analyzing the present policies, identification of new areas
- Research areas and Methodologies |
| 6. Film/Video Presentations | - Films/Video Presentations by Diaspora on India |
| 7. Tourism | - Strategies for developing tourism, between countries with Indian origin population and India. |

The Conference will be useful for **Academics, Scholars, Performing Artists, Policy makers in the field of Culture and Heritage, Diplomats, Tourism Professionals, Indian Diaspora and all those interested in Indian Culture and Heritage.**

Abstracts should be of about 250 words along with your contact and professional details. Selected papers will also be published by ICCR.

Important Dates

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| Submission of Abstracts | - | 25 th November, 2014 |
| Intimation of Acceptance | - | 30 th November, 2014 |
| Registration | - | 5 th December, 2014 to 5 th January, 2015 |
| Conference | - | 11-13 February, 2015 |

Registration , Accommodation & Travel

Charges: scholar from abroad-250 USD
 Student from Abroad-150 USD
 Indian Scholar -Rs.5, 000 /-
 Indian Student -Rs.2,000 /-

(this amount includes lunch, dinner, tea, conference kit)

Participants will have to arrange for their own accommodation and travel expenses. However, we shall be suggesting accommodation sites.

Registration form will be uploaded.

Name of Bank: State Bank of India

Branch: IP Estate, Vikas Bhawan, New Delhi

Bank Account No: 10310541422

IFSC Code: SBIN0001187

MICR Code: 110002049

Contacts:

Conference Coordinator

Shri Sunil Mehdiretta, Director, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, 011 23379463. Email: iccrconference@gmail.com

Academic Coordinator

Prof. Kapil Kumar, Chairperson, Faculty of History, School of Social Sciences, and Director, Indira Gandhi Centre for Freedom Struggle Studies , Indira Gandhi National Open University.01191910058434,011918826158434

. Email: iccrconference@gmail.com

For queries etc. Email: iccrconference@gmail.com

Conference Sessions: To be uploaded later

Registration Form

Name:

Country:

Passport No:

Address:

Profession:

Special food requirements, if any:

Registration Fee:

Scholar from Abroad	-	250 USD*
Student from Abroad	-	150 USD*
Indian Scholar	-	Rs. 5,000/*-
Indian Student	-	Rs. 2,000/-*

*(This amount includes Lunch, Dinner, Tea, Conference Kit, Transportation etc. during Conference).