

CALL FOR PAPERS

This is to bring to your kind notice that Centre of Central Asian Studies (CCAS), University of Kashmir is organizing a One Day National Seminar on "Continuity and Change: Some Sociological Insights from Kashmir and Ladakh" which is being organized by CCAS in collaboration with "Indian Council of Social Sciences Research, North-Western Regional Centre: P.U. Chandigarh." The Seminar will be held at Conference Hall of the Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar on 20th February 2025.

We, therefore, request your good self to join us as paper reader. We would request you to send your abstract before the 10th of February 2025 at wnasaru@yahoo.com

Some of the indicative themes include:

- Kashmir Society: Past and Present.
- Ladakh Society in Transition.
- Tourism in Ladakh and Kashmir.
- Change in Family, Marriage, and Kinship

These themes are indicative, and the seminar organizers are open to contributions on other themes of relevance.

Submission guidelines & dates:

- Abstract length should not exceed 350 words, along with clear and concise title.
- Paper length should not exceed 5000 words, with detailed bibliography.
- Language: English, Hindi and Urdu.
- Please send your abstract by 10 February 2025.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE : PROF. TAREAK A. RATHER
DR. MOHAMMAD AJMAL SHAH
DR. ABID GULZAR
DR ASIF MOHI UD DIN



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PROF. NIIFER KHAN
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
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PROF. NASEER IQBAL
Registrar
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Special Remarks
PROF. ANEESA SHAFI
Dean, School of Social Sciences
University of Kashmir



Keynote Speaker
PROF. AJAZ A. BANDEY
Former Director CCAS
University of Kashmir



Keynote Speaker
PROF. SYED ZAINUDDIN
Aligarh Muslim University
Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh



PROF. TABASUM FIRDOUS
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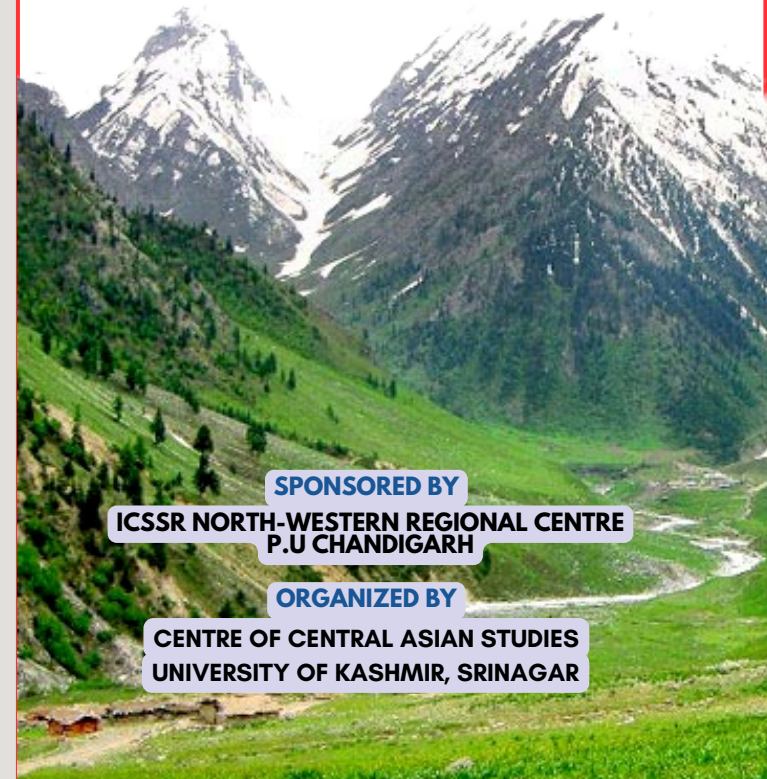


ONE-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR

on

Continuity and Change: Some Sociological Insights from Kashmir & Ladakh

20th February 2025, at 10:30 AM



SPONSORED BY
ICSSR NORTH-WESTERN REGIONAL CENTRE
P.U CHANDIGARH

ORGANIZED BY
CENTRE OF CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR, SRINAGAR

ABOUT THE CENTER

Establishment of CCAS:

In order to study the Central Asian region from a diversified point of view, the Centre of Central Asian Studies was established in 1978 at the University of Kashmir, Srinagar. Immediately thereafter, the Centre embarked upon a series of un-interrupted and unflinching research exercises largely aimed at re-discovering the cultures and peoples of the region. Therefore, most of the studies conducted through the Centre were historical and cultural in context, specifically focusing on affinities between Kashmir and Central Asia. For the reason Kashmir is closely situated to Central Asia and served as the bridge between India and Central Asia, its cultural mosaic reflected the syncretism and blend of various socio-cultural practices of a vast region.

In view of the historical and contemporary studies on the above geographical space, the Centre and its faculty is engaged in research on India's bilateral and multilateral relation with Central Asian countries. In addition to above, the focus of research is currently on the themes like:

- International Relations & Conflict Resolution
- Power Structure & Security
- History, Culture & Archaeology
- Silk Route Revival and Trade
- Islamic Revivalism
- Ethnicity & Out-migration
- Socio-economic Transformation
- Resource Management
- Disaster Management
- Cooperative Development
- Environmental Degradation
- Technology Transfer
- Globalization and Liberalization

Central Asian Museum:

Established in 1982, the bilateral and multilateral relations between India and Central Asia are sufficiently supported by thousands of artifacts showcased in the Central Asian Museum. Although CAM has been organizing thematic exhibitions from time to time, yet it was a moment of joy when America-based organization Asia Society and Museum (New York) requested CAM to send (temporarily) some of its art objects for the Art of Kashmir exhibition to be held in New York at 725 Park Ave (October 3, 2007, to January 6, 2008). The 'Arts of Kashmir' was a major international loan exhibition of objects of exemplary quality devoted to the rich artistic tradition of Kashmir. This exhibition which covered the period from fourth to twentieth century was the first ever to be devoted to the extraordinary arts of Kashmir valley. Premier examples of Kashmir's little-known works of Hindu, Buddhist and Islamic art, along with famed craft works ranging from furniture and paper-machie to carpets and embroidery, were included to provide a sense of the broad artistic production of this region. The CAM is continuously striving for conservation and preservation of art, artifacts and antiquities of the Himalayan region in particular.

Area Study Programmed:

Specialized studies pertaining to the region began to be pursued under its Area Studies Programme (ASP) after 1983 when the University Grants Commission provided the Centre with additional staff for an allied research wing – a special status that, inter-alia, served to link the Centre with rest of the Area Studies Centres of India. This enabled the Centre to set afresh its priorities with regard to contemporary problems relating to defence strategy, economic restructuring, resource management, religious revivalism, international relations, foreign investment, legal guarantees, etc. While negotiating new challenges, the Centre expeditiously carried forward its research agenda quite undaunted by the most hostile and un-favourable circumstances that existed in Kashmir.

PG Program Archaeology:

Centre of Central Asian Studies has quite recently in 2017 established PG in Archaeology discipline. Given that the Jammu and Kashmir state including the Ladakh region has a rich archaeological heritage spanning over millinia of history needs a dedicated Archaeology program as an academic discipline in a university set up. The administration at University of Kashmir acknowledged the need of the course in the Himalayan region and subsequently the course was introduced in 2017. Apart from focus on National curriculum and considering the regional needs the course focuses on field archaeology and involvement of technology in archaeological research more to make the Himalayan archaeology as an interesting discipline for students.

Journal of Central Asian Studies:

In continuation to the ongoing research agenda, the Centre has been uninterruptedly publishing annually The Journal of Central Asian Studies (ISSN 0975086X) for the past 30 years. It has an international Editorial Board and is acclaimed across the world for its quality, style and content. This refereed Journal with the research papers received from across the world are being evaluated by experts from the world over. Besides, printing its hard copies, it is also available on departmental website for wide circulation and indexed in the world's two leading databases EBSCO and ProQuest.



ABOUT THE SEMINAR

Continuity and social change represent the dual forces that shape the evolution of human societies. Continuity is the thread that binds a society's past to its present and future. It entails the preservation of time-honored traditions, values, and institutions that provide a sense of identity and stability. Cultural heritage, language, and historical legacies are crucial aspects of continuity. It ensures that generations can build upon the wisdom of their predecessors and maintain a level of social cohesion. Continuity is essential for social stability, as it establishes norms and routines that allow societies to function predictably.

Conversely, social change is the engine of progress and adaptation. It occurs in response to shifting circumstances, whether driven by technological advancements, economic developments, or external challenges. Social change fosters innovation, encouraging societies to evolve and devise creative solutions to emerging issues. It often results in the transformation of values and norms, such as shifts in gender roles or environmental consciousness. Moreover, social change is frequently spurred by cultural exchange and globalization, as societies interact and influence each other, leading to hybridization and the spread of new ideas.

The dynamic interplay between continuity and social change stands as a defining hallmark of human societies. The delicate equilibrium of safeguarding age-old traditions while ushering in evolution presents a challenge that manifests uniquely within diverse cultures and different epochs. Profoundly comprehending the synergy of these opposing forces is pivotal to unraveling the trajectory of societies as they traverse the complex terrain of their history and the uncharted horizons of their future. Two distinct geographical regions that serve as compelling sociological vantage points for this phenomenon are the territories of Kashmir and Ladakh, situated in the northern expanse of the Indian subcontinent.

An outline of the sub-theme of the Seminar

1. Kashmir Society: Past and Present.
2. Ladakh Society in Transition.
3. Tourism in Ladakh and Kashmir.
4. Change in Family, Marriage, and Kinship

