

# A TWO-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE

ON

## Genocides and Oppression: Interpretations, Intersections, and Interstices

### COIN-2022

(Coining New Ideas – Transcending New Horizons)

19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Venue: NIT Meghalaya Campus at Bijni Complex, Laitumkrah, Shillong

Organized by

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

National Institute of Technology Meghalaya

<http://nitm.ac.in>

In collaboration with

Department of English Literature

The English and Foreign Languages University, Shillong Campus



**COIN-2022:** Oppression is a concept that is often found in sociological, historical, and literary texts and that is defined in terms of a dominant group subjugating a minor group. Oppression can be defined as an institutionalized unjust exercise of power and domination on a weaker group of people who are denied their rights and freedom. The definition delineates how difficult it is to address the issues of oppression and eradicate them from society. The acclaimed Brazilian theorist on oppression, Paulo Friere, in *The Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, identifies many themes of oppression that include all forms of ‘-isms’ based on race, ethnicity, gender, class, caste, religion, and disability. Oppression does not necessarily have to be planned but can be woven into the economic, social, and cultural fabric of society. Oppression is experienced by most people in one or more forms at some point in their lives. While small acts of oppression are often ignored and might seem insignificant, oppression can lead to large-scale, devastating impacts, such as wars and genocides. ‘Genocide was such a vile act that even savages and wild beasts were incapable of committing it.’ (Kuper, *Theories of Genocides*) Given the great variety of historical and social contexts of acts of genocide, it would hardly seem possible to develop a general theory of genocide. It is recorded in history that thousands and millions of people who were perceived as a threat or enemy, or for no reason at all, have been murdered. The most infamous example of genocide is the Holocaust. Several other genocides such as the Holodomor, the Cambodians, the Armenians, the Greeks and Pontics, the Rohingyas, the Issaqs, the Seven Years Devastation (Chahi Taret Khuntakpa), and the Rwandan, too, left indelible scars in the history of mankind. The events created a platform for collective violence, devastation, and crimes that violated fundamental human rights.

This conference will look into oppression and genocides, from all angles and perspectives, including but not limited to all kinds of histories, stories, narratives, films, literature, theories, concepts, and interpretations. This conference will provide an interdisciplinary platform for academicians, researchers, and students from Social Sciences and Humanities disciplines to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, concerns, and practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in various oppressive structures.

This national conference welcomes students, researchers, and academicians to submit abstracts of not more than 500 words, with 4-6 keywords exploring the different dimensions dealing with various aspects of oppression and genocide by giving it an interdisciplinary approach. Abstracts should include: title; names of author(s); affiliations; research objectives/questions; key arguments/findings. There can be a maximum of 2 authors for an abstract. Abstracts should be sent to [gender.hss@nitm.ac.in](mailto:gender.hss@nitm.ac.in) on or before **15<sup>th</sup> October 2022**. Request for modifications in the abstracts will not be entertained after the last date of submission. Abstracts will be scrutinized by a group of experts. Each presenter will be given about 15 minutes for presentation and discussion.

**Registration Details:** The registration fee for delegates (Paper Presenters/Co-authors/Listeners) is Rs. 2,000/- only. The registration form and payment details will be sent at the time of acceptance of the abstract. The last date for registration is 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022. No registration will be entertained after the last date of registration. PG Students and research scholars who want to participate as *listeners* should send requests to [gender.hss@nitm.ac.in](mailto:gender.hss@nitm.ac.in) by 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Queries may be sent to the email IDs listed below:

Ms. Ankita Bhowmick: [ankita.bhowmick@nitm.ac.in](mailto:ankita.bhowmick@nitm.ac.in)

Ms. Ayingbi Thangjam: [p22hs001@nitm.ac.in](mailto:p22hs001@nitm.ac.in)

#### Timeline

Last date for submission of Abstracts : 15.10.2022

Notification of Acceptance of Abstracts : 20.10.2022

Last Date of Registration : 30.10.2022

Chairman, Organizing Committee : Dr. Paonam Sudeep Mangang, NIT Meghalaya

Programme Coordinator: Prof. Mousumi Guha Banerjee, EFLU Shillong Campus

Event Coordinator: Ms. Ankita Bhowmick, NIT Meghalaya

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