



NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY



Vernacular Periodicals and Dalit Writing: Production, Circulation and Reception

A National Conference organised by

GITAM School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management, Hyderabad

In Collaboration with

Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore

&

Network on Writing, Analysing and Translating Dalit Literature

1-3 March 2023

Conference Concept & CFP

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, under the leadership of Dr B R Ambedkar, Raicharan Sardar, Panchanan Barma, Guruchand Thakur and Surendranath Thakur, an aspiration to express themselves in the periodical print became quite pronounced among the minority and Dalit communities. Printed in vernacular, these periodical magazines and journals challenged the status quo of mainstream socio-political discourse and literary aesthetics. They became mouthpieces of contemporary caste politics. In post-independent India, such aspirations found resonance in literary movements such as the little magazine movement and the Hungryalist movement across India,

especially in Maharashtra and Bengal. Several Dalit writers, Baburao Bagul, Raja Dhale, Namdeo Dhasal, Shankarrao Kharat, and Binay Mazumdar, found a platform in the bulletins and the little magazines for interrogating the mainstream. These literary movements provided an alternative platform for Dalit writers and paved the path for a new brand of Dalit periodicals to emerge. Subsequently, little magazines and periodicals like *Vacha*, *Aamhi*, *Ata*, *Aso* were quickly followed by *Vidroh*, *Dhammalipi* (Marathi), *Adol Bodol*, *Atma Nirikshan*, *Bahujan Darpan* (Bangla). How was the journey of these vernacular periodicals? How do we take stock of this century-long ephemeral print enterprise? What are the defining features of this journey that carried the legacy of *Namasudra Shurid* and *Namasudra Hitoishi*, *Bratya Kshatriya Bandhab*, *Jagaran*, *Mooknayak*, and *Prabuddha Bharat* forward?

This conference invites early career scholars and doctoral candidates to engage with the periodical magazines from different Indian vernacular languages that facilitated the coming of a Dalit literary world and circulated different socio-political debates on *varna* and *jati*. Besides, it invites you to locate these magazines within the contemporary publishing industry, the market, and their struggle to remain in circulation. We also encourage scholars to trace the conversations, and exchange of ideas taking place across castes and languages, and scrutinise self-reflection and introspection within these vernacular magazines. To engage with these questions, the conference invites interested contributors to focus on the following rubrics of investigations. However, the following list is indicative and not exhaustive.

- Production, circulation and reception
- Readership of vernacular periodicals
- Print industry and vernacular periodicals
- Affiliations, organisations
- Language, ethnonationality and the question of caste
- Across language, caste networks of ideas and exchanges
- Folk genres and Caste Question
- Relationship with little magazine movement
- Challenge to the aesthetic status quo

Important Dates

Submission of Abstract: 04.02.23

Communication of Acceptance: 7.02.23

Registration: 7.02.2023 - 15.02.2023

Conference: 1-3 March 2023

Submission Guidelines

Kindly submit the abstract of your paper in about 300-400 words (Times New Roman, Font size 12) with 4-5 Keywords to gshsconference2023@gitam.edu. The abstract must be submitted as a docx file containing the title of the paper and the relevant sub-theme and should indicate primary and secondary sources.

A separate document should be sent containing the name of the author, institutional affiliation, a short bio and contact details.

Select papers will be published in an edited volume from reputed publishers.

Registration

Research scholars and students: Rs. 600/-

Others: Rs. 1000/-

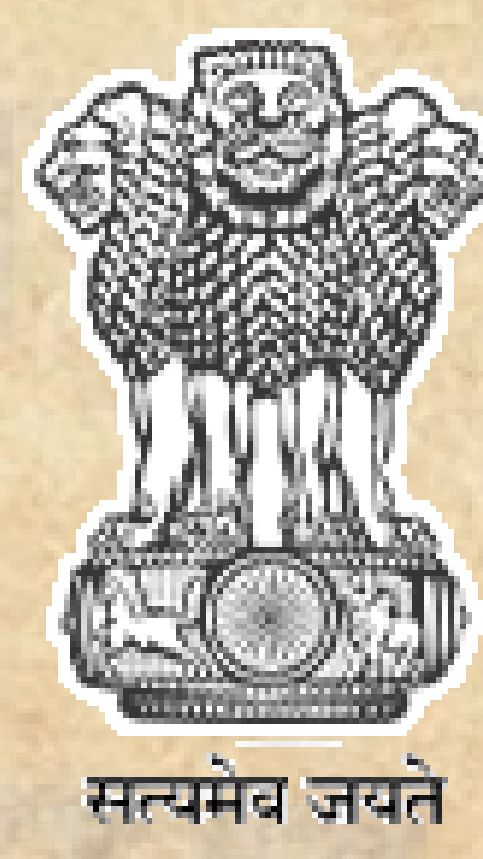
In the case of joint papers, both authors need to register.

Registration fee includes conference kit, tea and lunch during the conference days. Accommodation and Food will be arranged in GITAM for all outstation participants. Participants are encouraged to seek travel assistance from their respective institutes. The conference will be in physical mode, on-site, unless otherwise notified by competent authorities such as state health departments or ICMR.

All the paper presenters must complete the registration process online before 15 February 2023.

Details of the process will be available on the conference website from 7 February 2023.

For queries, please write to gshsconference2023@gitam.edu



सत्यमेव जयते



NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY



Vernacular Periodicals And Dalit Writing

Production, Circulation and Reception

National Conference

1 - 3 March 2023

Organised by

GITAM School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hyderabad

In Collaboration with

Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore

&

Network on Writing, Analysing and Translating Dalit Literature

Schedule

Day 1

Inaugural Session 9.15-9.45 J 211

Inaugural Remarks : **Prof D S Rao**
Pro Vice Chancellor, GITAM Hyderabad

Welcome Address: **Dr DRP Chandrasekhar**, Director (I/C), GSHS

Felicitations of the resource persons

Conference Concept: **Dr Sayantan Mondal**, Convener

Vote of Thanks: **Dr Jondhale Rahul Hiranman**, Convener

Keynote 1 9.45 - 10.30 J 211

Writing from the Margins: A Yearning for Respect and Recognition

Prof T M Yesudasan, CMS College, Kottayam (Retd.)

High Tea 10.30 - 11

Group Photo 11 - 11.15

Editors' Panel 11.15-12.45 J 228

J V Pawar, Co-founder, Dalit Panthers

Nakul Mallik, Editor, Dalit Kantha

Kalyani Thakur Charal, Editor, Neer Ritupatra

Prof Rekha Meshram, Editor, Ramai Masik

Chair : **Dr Sayantan Mondal & Dr Jondhale Rahul Hiranman**

Lunch 12.45 - 2

Keynote 2 2 -2.45 J 211

Knowledge Production of Dalits in Colonial South India
Prof J Balasubramaniam, Madurai Kamaraj University

Panel 1 2.45 - 4.30 J 228

Chair: **Prof Rajkumar Hans**
The MS University of Baroda (Retd.)

Prabuddha Bharat: Tracking Disquietude and Optimism
in the Dalit Politics of the 1950s
Dr Prabodhan Pol, Manipal Centre of Humanities, MAHE

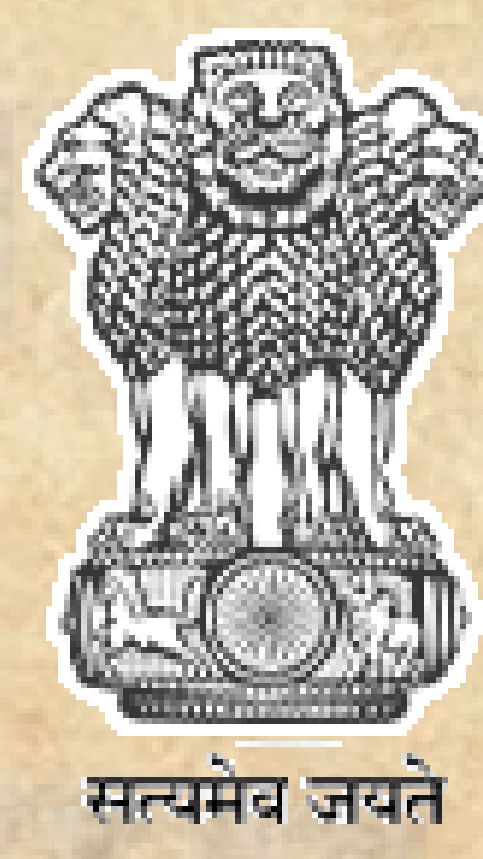
What Does an Adivasi Journal Say About Nehruvian India?
Dr N Manohar Reddy, NALSAR University of Law

Aikatan Gabeshana Patra: A Marxist-Ambedkarite Dialogue
in Bengali Dalit Discourse
Dr Mrinmoy Pramanick, University of Calcutta

Importance of Little Magazine Movement
in the Development of Gujrati and Marathi Dalit Writings
Dr Preeti Oza, St Andrews' College, University of Mumbai

Tea Break 4.30 - 4.45

Welcome Dinner 7.30-9 GITAM Cafe



सत्यमेव जयते



NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY



Vernacular Periodicals And Dalit Writing

Production, Circulation and Reception

National Conference

1 - 3 March 2023

Organised by

GITAM School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hyderabad

In Collaboration with

Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore

&

Network on Writing, Analysing and Translating Dalit Literature

Day 2

Keynote 3 9.30 -10.15 J 211

The Gujarati Dalit Sahitya Academy: Its Little Magazine Hayati
Harish Mangalam, Gujarat Dalit Sahitya Academy

Tea Break 10.15 -10.30

Panel 2 10.30 -12 J 228

Periodicals and Dalit Writing from Karnataka

Prof Tharakeswar V B, EFLU, Hyderabad

Prof P Thirumal, University of Hyderabad

in conversation with **Prof Sowmya Dechamma**, University of Hyderabad

Lunch 12-1

Keynote 4 1-1.45 J 211

Punjabi Dalit Periodicals as Expression of Self Assertion
in the past Hundred Years

Prof Rajkumar Hans, The MS University of Baroda

Presentation Session 1 1.45 -3 J 228

Chair: **Dr N Manohar Reddy**

Exploring The Gangaridae Community in The Low-lying Gangetic Pundrabardhan:
Reading Select Periodicals of the Pod/Poundras

Soumitra Gayen, Govt. General Degree College, Gopiballavapur II

Locating Caste in Indian Language little magazines: A Case study of
Hosathu

Greeshma Mohan K, Mahindra University

Contesting Categories: On Community Formation

Vellaisamy P, University of Hyderabad

Dalit Dissent in Post-independence India: Reading 'Little Magazines' as
the 'Angry Young Men' Statement

Chandra Prabha Mahawar, Central University of Rajasthan

Tea Break 3 -3.15

Panel 3 3.15 - 4.45 Online D 105

Chair: **Prof Nicole Thiara**, Nottingham Trent University, UK

Modern Print and Anti-caste Thought: Foregrounding the Presidencies
towards Comparative Thought

Dr Dickens Leonard, IIT Delhi

Exploring Dalit Writing in Missionary Periodicals in Colonial Andhra

Dr C Chandra Sekhar, SRR & CVR Govt Degree College (A), Vijayawada

Away From Brahmanism: Emancipation, the Matua Subject and Contemporary
Bengali Dalit Literature

Dr Rajat Roy, Presidency University, Kolkata



सत्यमेव जयते



NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY



Vernacular Periodicals And Dalit Writing

Production, Circulation and Reception

National Conference

1 - 3 March 2023

Organised by

GITAM School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hyderabad

In Collaboration with

Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore

&

Network on Writing, Analysing and Translating Dalit Literature

Day 3

Panel 4 9.30 -10.15 J 211

Chair: **Dr Prabodhan Pol**

Mapping Vernacular Periodicals and Recovering the Ephemeral

Dr Sayantan Mondal, GITAM Hyderabad

Dr Jondhale Rahul Hiranman, GITAM, Hyderabad

Tea Break 10.15 -10.30

Book Discussion 10.30 -11 J 211

oh priest, give the seeded banana! – **Niranjan Mondal**

Translator **Dr Mrinmoy Pramanick**

In conversation with **Dr Sayantan Mondal**

Presentation Session 2 11 -12.15 J 211

Chair: **Dr Mrinmoy Pramanick**

The History of Dalit Periodicals and the Roles of these Periodicals in Curbing Caste Humiliation in South 24 Parganas District of West Bengal: A Case Study

Dr Shubendu Shekhar Naskar, Vidyasagar University and **Moumita**

Purakait, Gour Mohan Sachin Mandal Mahavidyalaya, West Bengal.

Worldliness of Tamil Dalit journals

Darun Subramanian, EFLU, Hyderabad

(Be)littled Identities: Notes on Kannada Literary Sphere and Dalit Writings

Ramesh Aroli, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi

Two Responses to Caste in British Kumaon
Deepak Kumar Arya, University of Hyderabad

Lunch 12.15 - 1.15

Presentation Session 3 1.15 - 2.30 J 211

Chair: **Dr Prabodhan Pol**

Dialogues on The Emerging Dalit Little Magazines in Bengal : Hatiagor, Neer and Chaturtha Duniya

Abhiri Sanfui, IIT Bombay

Early Phule-Ambedkarite intellectual tradition in the newspaper Samata

Utkarsha N., IISER Mohali

Understanding Regional Issues and Concerns: A Case Study of Kathesar Magazine from Rajasthan

Monika, Central University of Rajasthan

Vidhrohi Magazine Challenging the Mainstream aesthetic status quo

Megha Gautam Kshirsagar, IIHS, Bangalore

Tea Break 2.30 - 2.45

Valedictory Session 2.45 - 4.15 J 211

Valedictory Address: **Prof Sipra Mukherjee**, West Bengal State University

Conference Report : **Ms Nanditha Rajaram Shastry**, GITAM Hyderabad

Feedback and comments: Participants & Resource persons

Vote of Thanks: **Dr Jondhale Rahul Hiranman**, Convener