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Dr. B. Samita Devi

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Last date for submission of
abstracts:

15th September 2019

Date for intimation of acceptance:

20th September 2019

Last date for registration:

5th October 2019

ilhsc.2019.hs@nitm.ac.in

A TWO DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTERSECTIONS OF LITERATURE AND HISTORY FOR SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CHANGE

COIN – 2019

(Coining New Ideas – Transcending New Horizons)

19th & 20th October 2019

Organized by

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

National Institute of Technology Meghalaya

<http://nitmeghalaya.in>

TEQIP-3

Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme



COIN – 2019: “Behind every book is a man; behind the man is the race; and behind the race are the natural and social environments whose influence is unconsciously reflected.” (William. J. Long)

It is true that there is essentially a vast difference between Literature and History. History is defined as the study of the past, the basis of which is factual evidence gathered from civilizations, occurrences and events. Literature, on the other hand, studies the written work or literary productions that are born out of the imaginative abilities of literary artists of different time periods. However, Long’s statement in his effort to define the importance of literature highlights one very important aspect. He identifies that any work of art is simply not a product of the imagination itself but rather the influences of external forces. These forces as he identifies are the environments, both social and natural, from which a writer draws inspiration for a book. The events that take place in these environments provide the literary artist with some form of material to enhance his imaginative faculties and therefore historical events are unconsciously reflected in them. Thus, it is only justified that even a creative genius like Shakespeare would find inspiration and a vast supply of material in the history of Ancient Rome. Therefore, despite the differences in the subjects, one cannot really draw a line between the two as History invariably continues to dominate subject matters in Literature through humanity. On the other hand, many historians have been lauded for their abilities to represent well researched and accurate facts of different time periods. However, although they have been praised for their historical representations, they have also been recognised for the literary finesse in representing the same. Therefore, the flipside of the relationship between the two subjects is equally noteworthy. The dynamic representation of historians and the creative finesse of the literary artiste have often crossed paths and in doing so have mutually enhanced and enriched each other. The possible outcome of such a relationship cannot be undermined. If History represents society and culture in its truest form and Literature enhances the platform of representation then the connection can also be seen as the best means to bring about social and cultural change. Dynamic representations would result in the creation of a consciousness among the reading public. While historical facts appeal to the intellect through an understanding of facts, literary representations would create an emotional revolution which would result in an awakening to a need to affect social and cultural change. It can only be said then that there is no thin line that demarcates the subjects. They intersect at different points and when they do the relationship becomes significant enough to bring about a difference in the way humanity perceives life itself.

The main objective of the conference is focussed towards an understanding of the above relationship and its positive outcomes. Interested participants are invited to take part in discussions surrounding the different points of intersections and their significance. Each presenter will be given about 15 minutes for presentation and discussion. Abstracts should be sent to ilhsc.2019.hs@nitm.ac.in. Abstracts should be of at least 300 and no more than 500 words with 5-6 keywords and should include: title; author(s); affiliations; research aims; key arguments/findings. The submitted abstracts will be scrutinized by a committee of experts. Modifications in the abstracts will not be accepted after the last date of submission. Abstracts on the following themes or any *other related themes* are welcome: Convergence of Themes and Subject matters in Literature and History; Literature as a Source of History; History as a Source of Literature; Literature for Social Change; History for Social Change; Importance of History in the study of Literature; Importance of Literature in the study of History; Importance of Social Change in the study of literature; Importance of Social Change in the study of History; Oral narratives; Oral History; Reconstructing the Past for the Future; Fact and fiction; Language and Literature; Language and Culture; Language and Society; Language of History; Historical Narratives; Language of Literature; Literature and Culture; History and Culture; Social Change and Culture; Travel Writing; Media Culture; Her Story; Gender Studies.

Registration Details: All co-authors should register as delegates. The registration fee for delegates (Paper Presenters and Listeners) is *Rs. 2,000/- only*. This includes access to all the sessions of the conference, lunch and refreshments during the conference days, conference kits, abstract booklet and certificates. Registration form and payment detail will be sent at the time of acceptance. Students and scholars who want to participate as *listeners* should send requests to ilhsc.2019.hs@nitm.ac.in by 30th September 2019. No registration will be entertained after the last date of registration. Registration fee once paid will not be refunded. Participants will have to manage their own accommodations. No TA/DA will be provided.

National Institute of Technology Meghalaya: The National Institute of Technology Meghalaya is one among the thirty-one NITs in India established under the NIT Act 2007 (Amended 2012) of the Parliament of India as Institutes of National Importance with full funding support from the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. The permanent campus of the Institute is being constructed at Sohra, about 55 kms from Shillong. The Institute is currently running from its temporary campus at Bijni Complex, Laitumkhrah, Shillong.

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences: The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences has been an integral part of the Institute since its inception in the year 2010. The main objective of the department is the holistic and all-round development of the technical graduates into socially responsible individuals. There has been strong exhortation and sensible view among the technical institutes that technical education needs to be complemented by a vital appreciation of the social values and interpersonal context of all learning. Responding to this eminent viewpoint, the department is infusing the concept of "Technology for the greater good of mankind and society as a whole" so that the students will not only excel in technical expertise but also inculcate among themselves excellence in communication, refinement of reasoning, openness to new ideas, and a commitment to social values and ethical behaviour.

Confirmed Plenary Speakers:



Prof. Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman, English Discipline, Khulna University, Bangladesh

Topic – History Intersects with Literature: The Language Movement of 1952 and the Rise of Bengali Nationalism



Prof. Awadesh Mishra, Director, English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Shillong Campus

Topic – The Importance of Understanding Culture in Language Learning



Prof. Desmond Kharmawphlang, North Eastern Hill University (NEHU)

Topic – The Historical Significance of Khasi Oral Literature



Prof. Jyotirmoy Prodhani, North Eastern Hill University (NEHU)

Topic – Oral Narratives and their Cultural and Historical Significance



Prof. Saugata Bhaduri, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, JNU

Topic – Relevance of History in the Study of Social and Cultural Change



Prof. Simi Malhotra, Director, Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research, Jamia Millia Islamia

Topic – The Significance of History and Society in Policy Research of the North Eastern Region of India



Prof. Th. Ratankumar Singh, Director, College Development Council, Manipur University

Topic – Bridging Social and Cultural Differences through Literature



Prof. T. K. Bamon, English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Shillong Campus

Topic – English Language and the Making of the Modern Khasi Culture



Dr. P. S. Mangang, National Institute of Technology Meghalaya

Topic – The Interdisciplinarity in Humanities and Social Sciences