

**A Two-Day International Conference**  
**on**  
**Translating Cultures:**  
**Exploring the Intersections of Language and Literature**

jointly organized by

**The Department of English, The Centre for Comparative Studies**

*Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, Telangana*

and

**National Translation Mission**

*Central Institute of Indian Languages*

*Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Mysore*

**Concept Note**

As we celebrate the 75th year of India's independence with the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava, it is an opportune time to reflect on the role of language, literature, and culture in shaping our national identity. The G20 initiative recognizes the importance of education, innovation, and collaboration in advancing global development, and the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has brought about significant changes in the Indian education system, which have caught the attention of academics all over the country. The NEP emphasizes the promotion and preservation of India's rich linguistic and cultural heritage, making it more relevant than ever to explore the intersection of language, literature, and culture in academic discourse.

This conference aims to explore the intersections of language, literature, and culture through the lens of translation, with a specific emphasis on Urdu. Urdu, with its deep roots in Indian history, literature, and culture, is an integral part of this endeavor. The policy's emphasis on multilingualism, the creation of a National Institute for Pali, Persian, and Prakrit, and the promotion of Indian languages and literature at all levels of education present exciting opportunities for the study and promotion of Urdu language and literature. This conference, focusing on the role of translation in exploring the intersections of language, literature, and culture, with an emphasis on Urdu, aligns with the spirit of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava and the objectives of the G20 initiative.

Translation has played an important role in generating scholarship in Urdu and opening up a new treasure of Urdu literature to researchers in various fields, not only in the field of translation studies but also in the fields of Urdu, English, Comparative, and Indian Literatures. A subcontinental Jane Austen might argue that a literary tradition with timeless works is in need of translations. Fortunately, there are several writers who possess both fluency in Urdu and at least one other language, who have taken it upon themselves to translate texts and bring the rich linguistic, cultural, and literary treasure of India to a wider audience. Some notable examples of these translations include Shamsur Rahman Faruqi's *Poisoned Arrow* (Ibne Safi), Khalid Hasan's *Mottled Dawn* (Saadat Hasan Manto), Qurratulain Hyder's *Fireflies in the Mist* and Anisur Rahman's *Hazaaron Khwahishen Aisi* (Ghazals). These translations not only provide the English-speaking world with a new culture and a different set of traditions to understand, but also offer researchers a unique opportunity to critically engage and examine the works from a variety of theoretical perspectives.

Through a series of keynote speeches, paper presentations, and panel discussions, the conference aims to generate new insights and perspectives on the role of translation in bridging cultures and promoting cross-cultural understanding. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in lively discussions and debates, share their research findings and experiences, and network with colleagues and fellow researchers from around the world.

The conference will take a multidisciplinary approach, bringing together scholars and researchers from fields such as linguistics, literature, translation studies, cultural studies, and anthropology. We welcome proposals for papers in both Urdu and English that address the conference themes. Scholars, researchers, translators, students, and practitioners from all fields and disciplines are warmly invited to submit their proposals. We encourage submissions that draw on diverse theoretical and methodological approaches, as well as those that explore the practical applications of translation in a variety of contexts. All submissions will be subject to a rigorous peer-review process.

**Sub themes:**

- ✿ Translation studies in the context of NEP 2020
- ✿ Translation: theoretical and methodological approaches
- ✿ Translation and literary theory / studies
- ✿ Translation and cultural studies
- ✿ Translating across languages, cultures, and disciplines
- ✿ Multimodal translation and new media
- ✿ Cognitive approaches to translation
- ✿ Corpus-based translation studies
- ✿ Translation and globalization
- ✿ Translation and the digital humanities
- ✿ Inter-semiotic translation: from text to image, music, and film

**Priority areas:**

- ✿ The challenges of translating Urdu literature for a global audience
- ✿ The potential of Urdu literature to facilitate intercultural dialogue and understanding
- ✿ Urdu literature in translation: perspectives and practices
- ✿ Translating sciences and social sciences texts in Urdu language
- ✿ Machine translation and its role in Urdu language translation
- ✿ Urdu journalism and pamphlets in translation
- ✿ Urdu sketches in translation
- ✿ Urdu non-fiction (biographies/ autobiographies/interviews) in translation
- ✿ Urdu language and literature in translation and India's freedom struggle
- ✿ Urdu language and literature in translation in diaspora/transnational space
- ✿ Translation of text into and from Urdu to Indian languages
- ✿ Issues and challenges in translating Urdu texts into Indian languages
- ✿ Learning and teaching Urdu through English and vice versa.
- ✿ Urdu for Special Purposes and Urdu as a Foreign Language

### **Important Dates**

- Deadline for receiving abstract: 15 May 2023
- Notification of acceptance: 17 May 2023
- Deadline for online registration: 19 May 2023
- **Dates of the conference: 25 - 26 May 2023**

### **Register or submit the abstract at**

<https://forms.gle/ZZbcLsDhBVurbLHt5>

### **Registration Fee**

Rs. 1000 per participant

There shall be a waiver of 50% for the research scholars.

## **Conference Committee**

### **Chief Patrons**

Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan, *Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, MANUU*

Prof. Shailendera Mohan, *Director, CIIL*

### **Patrons:**

Dr. S.K. Ishtiaque Ahmed, *Registrar, MANUU*

Prof. Imtiyaz Hasnain, *Director, Maulana Azad Chair, MANUU.*

Prof. Aziz Bano, *Dean, School of Languages, Linguistics and Indology, MANUU*

### **Conference Directors**

Prof. Shagufta Shaheen, *Professor & HoD, Department of English, MANUU.*

Dr. Tariq Khan, *CIIL*

### **Conference Convener**

Dr. Muhammed Aslam Kunnathil, *Assistant Professor, Department of English, MANUU.*

### **Conference Committee Members**

Prof. Nagendra Kottacheruvu, *Professor, Department of English, MANUU.*

Dr. Om Prakash, *Associate Professor, Department of English, MANUU.*

Dr. Govindaiah Godavarthi, *Assistant Professor, Department of English, MANUU.*

Dr. Khairunnisa Nagathorige, *Assistant Professor, Department of English, MANUU.*

Ms. Sameena Tabassum, *Assistant Professor, Department of English, MANUU.*

Dr. Geeta, *Assistant Professor, Department of English, MANUU.*

Dr. Qudsi Rizwi, *Guest Faculty, Department of English, MANUU*

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