



St. Xavier's University, Kolkata

INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM CELL



1ST INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

ON

RECLAIMING KNOWLEDGE THROUGH INDIGENOUS
EPISTEMOLOGIES IN A GLOBALIZING WORLD



In collaboration with

The Centre of Excellence for Indian Knowledge System, IIT Kharagpur

&

School of Leadership, IIT Kharagpur



10th and 11th April 2026

Mode: Hybrid (Offline & Online)

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Message from VICE-CHANCELLOR



Welcome to St. Xavier's University, Kolkata—a seat of learning where ancient wisdom meets modern innovation. Since our journey began in July 2017, supported by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee, we have remained dedicated to a 500-year-old Jesuit tradition of service and truth. Our motto, *Nihil Ultra* ("Nothing Beyond"), drives our quest to go beyond mere information and reach for true transformation. In alignment with the Indian Knowledge System (IKS), we believe that education is not just for a career, but for life. Our approach mirrors the traditional Indian philosophy of *Vidya*—the pursuit of knowledge that liberates and empowers.

The Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) Cell at St. Xavier's University has been established to explore, preserve, and integrate India's rich intellectual and cultural heritage into modern education. IKS Cell's vision is to promote indigenous wisdom, scholarship, and collaboration. Aligning with the National Education Policy 2020 and Jesuit values, the IKS Cell aims to make the university a leading centre for Indian Knowledge Studies, enabling students to apply ancient wisdom to contemporary challenges in fields such as law, public policy, and science. Beyond its foundational goals, the IKS Cell is dedicated to fostering interdisciplinary research and developing new curricula that bridge ancient Indian knowledge with modern academic disciplines. Its core motto is to create a transformative educational experience that empowers students to apply indigenous wisdom to contemporary societal challenges.

It is a matter of great pride and academic significance that St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, is collaborating with IIT Kharagpur's Centre of Excellence for Indian Knowledge System and the School of Leadership. This partnership marks a vital step in our mission to blend ancient Indian wisdom with modern educational practices. I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the visionary work being done at IIT Kharagpur; their commitment to researching and promoting our rich heritage provides a powerful foundation for this joint journey.

By working closely with our own Indian Knowledge System (IKS) Cell, this collaboration will create a unique space where traditional values meet contemporary leadership skills. We believe that for our students to become 'men and women for others', they must be deeply rooted in the intellectual and cultural history of our nation. Through shared resources, joint research, and academic exchange, we aim to inspire a new generation of thinkers who carry the spirit of excellence and a profound respect for Indian knowledge.

–Rev. Father Dr. John Felix Raj, SJ

About

ST. XAVIER'S UNIVERSITY, KOLKATA

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata (SXUK) grew from a dream to build a top-tier center for higher education in West Bengal. This journey began in 2011 when Rev. Fr. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J., alongside the St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association, launched 'SXC Vision 2020.' The project gained significant support in 2012 after the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr. Mamata Banerjee, proposed creating a university under the Jesuit banner. To help this dream become a reality, the state government provided a 17-acre plot of land in Rajarhat for the campus. A major turning point occurred in December 2016 with the passing of the St. Xavier's University Kolkata Act. This law went into effect on February 8, 2017, and shortly after, Father Felix Raj, S.J., took charge as the university's first Vice-Chancellor. The campus was officially opened on July 7, 2017, by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. Today, SXUK is recognized as a place where academic excellence, fresh ideas, and a duty to help society come together.



The university offers a wide range of degrees, including undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD programs. These are managed through the Faculties of Commerce and Management, Arts and Social Studies, and Science. Each program is built to help students think for themselves and grow their creative skills. Additionally, SXUK features two specialized branches: the Xavier Business School (XBS), which offers an AICTE-approved MBA, and the Xavier Law School, which provides BCI-approved five-year law degrees.

About INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KHARAGPUR

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur is guided by the powerful motto "योग: कर्मसु कौशलम्", which means "Excellence in action is Yoga." This philosophy, rooted in the Bhagavad Gita, teaches that performing one's duty with a calm and focused mind leads to perfection. This spirit of dedication has been the foundation of the institute since it started in August 1951 with 224 students and 42 teachers. Originally housed in the historic Hijli Detention Camp, the institute grew under the leadership of its first Director, Sir J.C. Ghosh. In 1952, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation for the new campus, which was designed by a team led by Swiss architect Dr. Werner M. Moser. By 1956, the Indian Parliament declared it an Institute of National Importance, granting it the status of an autonomous university.



Today, IIT Kharagpur has transformed into a massive, tree-filled campus spanning 2,100 acres with over 15,000 residents. The institute's vision is to remain a global leader in education and research, producing leaders in science, technology, and management. Its mission is to provide a broad-based education that helps students master their professional skills while encouraging a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship. By bringing together the best expertise in law, technology, and management, the university also provides vital consultancy and research services that benefit the nation. From its modest start with ten departments, IIT Kharagpur has evolved into a world-class hub of knowledge dedicated to improving the lives of citizens everywhere.

About

THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

The Indian Knowledge System (IKS) Cell at St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, is proud to host its inaugural International Seminar, a premier gathering designed to bridge ancient wisdom with modern academic inquiry. This conference serves as a vital platform for scholars and researchers to explore the depth of India's intellectual heritage and its relevance in today's world. By bringing together diverse perspectives, the event aims to foster a deeper understanding of how traditional Indian insights can inform and enrich contemporary global knowledge across various disciplines.

The academic sessions of this seminar are organized into four major areas of study. The first focus area examines the Epistemic and Ontological Foundations of Indian Knowledge Systems, looking into the fundamental nature of reality and the ways we acquire knowledge. The second theme explores the analytical side of this heritage, tracing the sophisticated developments in Mathematics and positional astronomy. Together, these tracks highlight the rigorous, logical and scientific spirit that has defined Indian thought for centuries.

Moving into practical and social applications, the third theme covers the normative side of Indian Knowledge Systems. This includes a wide range of topics, from the healing practices of Ayurveda to the complexities of the Social Sciences and the sustainable principles of Traditional-passive Architecture. Finally, the conference looks toward the future by investigating the contemporary interface between traditional wisdom and Quantum sciences. By exploring these broad topics, the conference seeks to inspire innovation and provide a holistic perspective on the evolution of human understanding.

1. Epistemic and Ontological Foundations of Indian Knowledge Systems
2. Indian Knowledge systems: from Mathematics to positional astronomy: the analytical side
3. Indian Knowledge Systems: from Ayurveda to Social Sciences and the Traditional Passive Architecture Systems: the normative side
4. Indian Knowledge Systems: the contemporary interface with Quantum sciences.

THEMES AND SUBTHEMES

THEMES

1. Epistemic and Ontological Foundations of Indian Knowledge Systems.
2. Indian Knowledge systems: from Mathematics to positional astronomy: the analytical side.
3. Indian Knowledge Systems: from Ayurveda to Social Sciences and the Traditional Passive Architecture Systems: the normative side.
4. Indian Knowledge Systems: the contemporary interface with Quantum sciences.

SUB-THEMES

- Pramāṇa-based epistemic foundations of Indian Knowledge Systems.
- Knowledge, ethics, and liberation as integrated pursuits.
- Orality, textual traditions, and the guru-śiṣya mode of knowledge transmission.
- Indian mathematical traditions: zero, infinity, and algorithmic reasoning.
- Logical and debate traditions in Nyāya and Buddhist philosophy.
- Positional astronomy and indigenous cosmological models.
- Ayurveda as a holistic system of health, ecology, and well-being.
- Social and political thought in classical Indian texts.
- Normative frameworks of law, dharma, and justice.
- Idea of State, power and governance in classical Indian texts.
- Indian metaphysics and theories of quantum consciousness.
- Indian Knowledge Systems in contemporary interdisciplinary research and knowledge decolonisation.

The GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF PAPERS



We invite original research papers on the Seminar themes. Papers should adhere to the following guidelines.

- Submission Guidelines: Abstract Length: 350 - 500 words [with 5-7 keywords]
- Full Paper Length: 3,000 - 5,000 words [maximum; including references]
- Similarity: <15%
- Document Type: MS Word Paper Size: A4 [with 1 inch margin on all sides]
- Font Size: 12
- Font Type: Times New Roman
- Line Spacing: 1.5 Title: 12;
- Bold Subtitle: 12; Bold; Single Spaced
- Alignment: Justified
- Language: English Tables, Graphs & Figures need to be in Black and White.
- Citation: APA, 7 Edition / MLA Guidelines

The Author Details: Full Name | Designation | Affiliation | Phone Number | E-Mail. The author's details have to be provided on the first page of the manuscript.

Abstract Submissions Open till: 15th March (11:59 PM)

Full Paper Submissions Open till: 30th March (11:59 PM)

Joint Author Submission includes a maximum of Two Authors only.

NOTE: All the paper presentations will be conducted in online mode only.

Methods FOR PAYMENT OF FEES

| Participants | Single Author | Joint Author |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| STUDENT | INR 1,000 | INR 1,500 |
| RESEARCH SCHOLAR | INR 1,200 | INR 1,900 |
| ACADEMICIAN & PROFESSIONAL | INR 1,500 | INR 2,500 |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Participants (Without Paper) | 500 INR |
|------------------------------|---------|

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|----------------------------|---------|
| International Participants | USD 100 |
|----------------------------|---------|



Scan this QR Code for payment

Account Details -

Beneficiary Name: ST. XAVIER'S UNIVERSITY KOLKATA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Branch IFSC Code: CNRB0019721
Account Number: 97212010001155
Bank Name: Canara Bank
Branch Name: St. Xavier's University Kolkata Rajarhat Campus Branch

PUBLICATION:

Selected papers will be published in edited books.

CERTIFICATION:

E-Certificates will be provided to all the participants.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Last date to submit the abstract: **15th March**
- Intimation of Acceptance of Abstract: **18th March**
- Registration starts: **19th March**
- Last date to submit the full paper: **30th March**
- Last date of registration: **3rd April**

contact

THE ORGANISERS



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