



**St. Philomena's College
(Autonomous), Mysuru**



In Collaboration with
St Berchmans College
AUTONOMOUS (Under the Patronage of the Society of the Holy Spirit)
Dombivli, Maharashtra. Affiliated to Padua University, Italy.



An IQAC Initiative

TWO-DAY National Conference on

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Contemporary Literary Studies

Date: **24-25 April 2026**
Venue: **College Auditorium
St. Philomena's College
(Autonomous), Mysuru**



Registration Link

Objectives of the Conference

The primary objective of this conference is to explore the dynamic intersections between contemporary literary studies and diverse fields. It aims to provide a collaborative platform for scholars and students to examine how literature navigates complex twenty-first-century issues of identity, power, and representation. Furthermore, the conference seeks to stimulate innovative interdisciplinary research by encouraging robust dialogue that transcends traditional academic boundaries.

Speakers



From Canon to Margin: Shifting Paradigms in Contemporary Literary Criticism

Prof (Dr) Robert Jose

Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University
Bellary, Karnataka



Refugee Biopolitics: Literature, Power, and the Politics of Survival

Dr Haris Qadeer

University of Delhi



Environmental Humanities: Recent Developments

Dr Goutam Karmakar

University of Hyderabad

Conference Sub-Themes

- ▶ Cultural Studies
- ▶ Gender Studies
- ▶ Memory Studies
- ▶ Diaspora and Migration Studies
- ▶ Artificial Intelligence in Literary Studies and Language Teaching
- ▶ Folk and Oral Narratives
- ▶ Posthumanism and Literary Studies
- ▶ Emerging Trends in Translation Studies
- ▶ Contemporary Trends in Literary Criticism
- ▶ Health and Medical Humanities
- ▶ Indian Knowledge Systems
- ▶ Environmental Humanities
- ▶ Culinary Narratives and Food Studies
- ▶ Film and Media Studies
- ▶ Marginal and Subaltern Studies

Who Can Participate?

- ▶ Teachers
- ▶ Researchers and PhD Scholars
- ▶ Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students from various fields of the Humanities
- ▶ Practitioners and Independent Scholars

St. Philomena's College (Autonomous), Mysore

Department of English (UG & PG) in
Collaboration with St Berchmans College

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE **VALEDICTORY CEREMONY OF**
Two-Day National Conference on
Interdisciplinary Approaches to Contemporary
Literary Studies

DATE:
25 APRIL, 2026

Time:
01: 30 PM

Venue:
College Auditorium

Chief Patrons: **Rev. Dr. Lourd Prasad Joseph (Rector)**

Dr Teddy Kanjooparampil

Principal, St Berchmans College, Changanacherry

Co-Patrons: **Rev. Fr. Jnana Pragasam** (Campus Administrator)

Rev. Fr. David Sagayaraj S (Assistant to the Rector)

Dr. Ravi J. D. Saldanha (Principal)

Dr. Noor Mubhasheer C A (PG Coordinator)

Ms. Suhan Poovaiah (Head, Department of English - UG & PG)

Dr Nithin Varghese

(Head, Department of English, St Berchmans College)

Mr. Mahesh Nayaka M, Coordinator

TWO DAYS SCHEDULE

Day I – 24 April, 2026

Inauguration - 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

First Keynote Address - 10:30 AM - 11.30 AM

"From Canon to Margin: Shifting Paradigms in Contemporary
Literary Criticism"

Dr. Robert Jose,

Tea Break - 11.30 AM – 11.45 AM

Second Keynote Address - 11.45 AM - 12.45 PM

Environmental Humanities: Recent development Prof. Goutham
Karmakar,

Lunch - 1.30 PM – 2.30 PM

Paper Presentation I - 2.30 PM – 3.30 PM

High Tea - 3.30 PM – 3.45 PM

Cultural Evening - 3.45 PM – 4.30 PM

Day II – 25 April, 2026

Third Keynote Address - 9.30 AM - 10.30 AM

Refugee Biopolitics: Literature, Power, and the Politics of Survival"

Prof. Harris Qadeer,

Tea Break - 10.30 AM – 10.45 AM

Paper presentation Group II 11:45 to 12:45

Certificate distribution: 12:45 to 1:30

Valedictory and Vote of Thanks :1:30 to 2pm

Lunch and dispersal 1:30 to 2:30

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/o7KnQ8Dt399uZxzg7>

The Department of English (UG & PG), St. Philomena's College (Autonomous), Mysore, in collaboration with St. Berchmans College, Changanassery, Kerala, successfully organized a two-day National Conference on "Interdisciplinary Approaches to Contemporary Literary Studies" on 24th and 25th April 2026. The conference commenced with the inaugural session held in the college auditorium. The dignitaries were formally welcomed, followed by the College Anthem and an invocation through a prayer song. The inaugural ceremony included the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the pursuit of knowledge and enlightenment.



As part of the inaugural proceedings, the Book of Abstracts of the conference was formally released by the dignitaries on the dais. The volume brought together abstracts of research papers contributed by participants from various parts of the country.



The gathering was then welcomed by Mr. William Joseph, Assistant Professor of English. This was followed by brief inaugural remarks by the keynote speaker, Prof. Robert Jose from Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University, who set the tone for the conference by reflecting on contemporary shifts in literary studies. The Rector delivered the Presidential Address, emphasizing the importance of interdisciplinary approaches in the humanities and the role of academic engagement in shaping critical thought. The inaugural session concluded with the Vote of Thanks proposed by Ms. Jenifer Priya. The first academic session was led by Prof. Robert Jose, who delivered a lecture on “From Canon to Margin: Shifting Paradigms in Contemporary Literary Criticism.” His lecture critically examined the evolving nature of literary studies, focusing on the transition from canonical texts to marginalized voices and the need for inclusive frameworks in contemporary criticism. The session was followed by an interactive discussion with the participants



The second session featured Dr. Goutam Karmakar from the University of Hyderabad, who spoke on “Environmental Humanities: Recent Developments.” His lecture highlighted the interdisciplinary dimensions of environmental studies and explored the relationship between literature, ecology, and sustainability. Post-lunch, the conference hosted parallel technical

sessions, where research scholars and students presented their papers on diverse contemporary themes. The sessions provided a platform for academic exchange and critical discussion, and were conducted in an organized and engaging manner. The first day concluded with a vibrant cultural programme presented by students. The performances reflected creativity and cultural expression, and were well received by the audience.





The second day of the conference began with the third lecture by Dr. Haris Qadeer from the University of Delhi on “Refugee Biopolitics: Literature, Power, and the Politics of Survival.” His lecture offered critical insights into issues of displacement, identity, and power, and examined how literary narratives engage with the politics of survival.





This was followed by technical sessions held in the UG Auditorium, where participants presented their research papers. The sessions witnessed active participation and meaningful academic engagement.

The valedictory session marked the formal conclusion of the conference. The distinguished speakers were honoured as a token of appreciation for their valuable contribution. Certificates were distributed to all participants in recognition of their involvement in the conference.





The programme concluded with the Vote of Thanks proposed by Ms. Suhan Povaiah, expressing gratitude to the management, speakers, organizing team, and participants for their support and contribution. The National Anthem was sung, bringing the conference to a formal close.

Around 100 participants from different parts of the country took part in the conference, making it a vibrant and enriching academic platform.



The conference was successfully coordinated by Mr. Mahesh Nayaka, whose efforts, along with the support of the Rector and the Principal, contributed to the smooth and effective conduct of the event.
