



A ONE DAY NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON
“SANSKRIT POETESSES
AND WOMEN
ACADEMICIANS
IN THE
SANSKRIT TRADITION:
ANCIENT & MODERN”

Organized by

Department of Sanskrit
Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma
University

In Collaboration with the
Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi

Date: 11-12-2024, Time: 10:00 AM

Venue: Room No. 117, CBPBU

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CONCEPT NOTE

The Sanskrit tradition, with its profound wisdom and timeless elegance, owes much to the remarkable contributions of women poets and academicians across the ages. From the sacred hymns of ancient *ṛṣikās* to the intellectual achievements of modern scholars, these women have illuminated the literary and scholarly landscape of Sanskrit with their creativity, intellect, and resilience.

The *Rgveda* and *Atharvaveda* immortalize the contributions of around thirty *ṛṣikās*, reflecting the intellectual prominence of women in ancient India. The *Atharvaveda* inspires women to rise and achieve life's highest goals: “उत्तिष्ठ नारि तवसं रमस्व” (A.V., 11.1.14). It celebrates women as enlightened with education and poetry and healthy with ghee: “ब्रह्मणा शुद्धा उत पूता घृतेन” (A.V., 11.1.18). These texts also recognize their prowess in both *śāstra* and *śastra*, highlighting their presence in sacrificial altars and battlefields: “संहोत्रं स्म पुरा नारी समनं वाव गच्छति” (A.V., 20.126.10). Figures like Gārgī, known for her *śāstric* expertise, exemplify the scholastic heights achieved by ancient Indian women.

The epics and classical Sanskrit literature further underscore the academic and poetic contributions of women. Bhavabhūti's depiction of Ātreya as Lava and Kuśa's classmate and the argumentative prowess of Draupadī and Damayantī in the *Mahābhārata* reveal their intellectual vigour. Poets like Bijjikā and Avantisundarī, along with scholars like Ubhayā Bhārati, the erudite wife of Maṇḍana Miśra, embody the profound capabilities of ancient Indian women in *śāstra* and *kāvya*.

Modern times have witnessed equally inspiring contributions. The 19th-century poet and scholar Kṣamā Rao from Pune stands as a testament to this legacy. In contemporary times, figures such as Puṣpā Dīkṣit represent the fusion of traditional expertise and modern sensibilities in Sanskrit poetry and *śāstric* studies.

This one-day national symposium aims to explore the intellectual and creative journeys of both ancient and modern female poets and academicians. Together, let us pay tribute to these extraordinary women and delve into the wisdom they have bestowed upon future generations. We warmly invite scholars, academicians, poets, students, and enthusiasts to participate and present papers on topics related to, but not limited to, the following range of sub-themes:

1. Vedic *Ṛṣikās*
2. Classical Female Scholars and Poets
3. 19th-Century Female Sanskrit Luminaries
4. 20th-Century Women Poets and Scholars in Sanskrit
5. Modern Female Poets and Academicians
6. Women Priests in Sanskrit Tradition



RESOURCE PERSONS

- ♦ **Prof. (Dr.) Harekrishna Satpathy**
Former Vice-Chancellor, National Sanskrit University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
- ♦ **Prof. (Dr.) Mukta Biswas**
Retired Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Gauhati University, Assam.
- ♦ **Prof. (Dr.) Tapati Mukherjee**
Former Vice-Chancellor, Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University, Purulia, West Bengal.
- ♦ **Prof. (Dr.) Raghunath Ghosh**
Retired Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of North Bengal, Darjeeling, West Bengal.
- ♦ **Prof. (Dr.) Ratna Basu**
Retired Professor, Department of Sanskrit, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- ♦ **Prof. (Dr.) Aruna Ranjan Mishra**
Retired Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Pali & Prakrit, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal.
- ♦ **Prof. (Dr.) Partha Pratim Das**
Professor, Department of Sanskrit, The University of Burdwan, Bardhaman, West Bengal.
- ♦ **Prof. (Dr.) Mau Das Gupta**
Professor, Department of Sanskrit, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- ♦ **Dr. Shaikh Sabir Ali**
Associate Professor, Department of Sanskrit, West Bengal State University, Barasat, West Bengal.
- ♦ **Dr. Subhrajit Sen**
Assistant Professor, Department of Sanskrit, University of Gour Banga, Malda, West Bengal.





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IMPORTANT DATES

- ♦ Registration : 25. 11. 2024 - 08. 12. 2024
- ♦ Last Date for Submission of Abstract: 08. 12. 2024
- ♦ Notification for Acceptance of Abstract: 09. 12. 2024
- ♦ Last Date for Submission of Full Paper: 11. 12. 2024

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University (CBPBU) is a UGC-recognized premier public university located in Cooch Behar, West Bengal, India. Established under the "West Bengal Act XXI of 2012," (The Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University Act, 2012), it stands as a testament to the state's commitment to higher education. The institution proudly bears the name of the illustrious 19th-century Rajbongshi leader and social reformer, Raisaheb Thakur Panchanan Barma, whose pioneering contributions have left an indelible mark on Bengal's socio-cultural history. With seventeen colleges in the Cooch Behar district affiliated to it, CBPBU continues to serve as a beacon of academic excellence and an incubator of intellectual and cultural growth in the region.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND FULL PAPERS

- ♦ Language: Sanskrit (Arial Unicode, 16) & English (Times New Roman, 12)
- ♦ Page: A4 (Portrait) MS Word, Margins: 1 inch (2.5 cm) all sides; Line Spacing: 1.5
- ♦ Word Limit: For Abstract – 300 Words (max.) & For Full Paper – 5000 Words (max.)
- ♦ References: MLA (8th Edition) Style, alphabetically sorted.
- ♦ Use Endnotes only (Do not use footnotes).
- ♦ Full Papers should be sent to: sanskrit.cbpbu@gmail.com

REGISTRATION FEES

Paper Presentation:

- ♦ Faculty Members (University/ College/ School): Rs. 1000/-
- ♦ Research Scholars (Ph.D./ M.Phil.): Rs. 800/-
- ♦ PG Students: Rs. 600/-
- ♦ Others: Rs. 800/-
- ♦ Online Presentation: Rs. 500/-

Participation only:

- ♦ Faculty Members (University/ College/ School): Rs. 500/-
- ♦ Research Scholars (Ph.D./ M.Phil.): Rs. 500/-
- ♦ PG Students: Rs. 200/- (With Lunch)
- ♦ PG Students: Rs. 100/- (Without Lunch)
- ♦ Others: Rs. 500/- (With Lunch) and Rs. 100/- (Without Lunch)

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