



## AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV

**OVERLAPPING OF ĀRYĀVARTA AND RĀMĀYAṆA PARIKARAMA  
ACROSS SOUTH ASIA: AN INTERPRETATIVE EXEGESIS OF BOTH  
CIRCLES ACROSS TIME AND SPACE**

**ICSSR SPONSORED**

**Multi-Disciplinary International Conference  
Organized by**

**Prem Chand Markanda S.D. College for  
Women, Jalandhar**

**(A+ Grade by NAAC)**

**on**

**24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**

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### About the College:

Glowing with historic institutions that have stood the test of time for more than a century, the arena of higher education in India possesses a valuable heritage that we inherited from the past and have preserved so well through the present in order to hand it over to the future generations. With an iconic history of 48 years, Prem Chand Markanda S. D. College for Women, Jalandhar is a priceless product of this valuable heritage. Since its foundation on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 1973, it has relentlessly and so admirably endeavoured to translate the vision of its founders into reality.

It was carved into a distinct shape by the great philanthropists and educationists, Pandit Prem Chand Markanda, Pandit Dharam Pal Dada, Seth Rup Chand Budhia and Lala Shiv Nath Khanna who came to the forefront with a missionary zeal and a pledge to uplift women from the quagmire of a highly conservative society and lend dignity, respect and equal status to them. Since its inception, it has shaped the destiny of the nation, the society and women through incredible contributions that have not been confined only to the sphere of higher education, but also encompass the moral, social and cultural fabric of our nation.

Carrying forward the legacy of its honourable founders, the institution has emerged as a centre of excellence that nurtures intellectual and academic growth, kindles creativity, and inspires for vibrant extracurricular activities, community service initiatives and moral values. For its phenomenal contribution in the field of higher education, it has been re-accredited with Grade 'A+' by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), a distinction that testifies its excellence and paves way for its forthcoming flights whose limit can only be the limitless sky.

### About the Conference:

The idea of globalization and global village evolved in India much earlier than Europe and was quite holistic in nature because it was not based on colonizing others rather it was based on learning from each other and coexistence. As evident from the verse written in Chapter 6 of Maha Upanishad:

अयं बन्धुरयनेति गणना लघुचेतसाम्  
उदारचरितानां तु वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् ॥

(The distinction "This person is mine, and this one is not" is made only by the narrow-minded (i.e. the ignorant who are in duality). For those of noble conduct (i.e. who know the Supreme Truth) the whole world is one family (one Unit).

Since ancient times India believed in the exercise of soft power that works mainly on the strength of aesthetic beauty and the concern for the wellbeing of the entire creation as evident from the verse in Brihadaranyaka Upanishad:

ॐ सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः  
सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः ।  
सर्वे भद्राणि पश्यन्तु  
मा कश्चिदुःखभाग्भवेत् ।



ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥

Om, May All be Happy,  
May All be Free from Illness.  
May All See what is Auspicious,  
May no one Suffer.  
Om Peace, Peace, Peace.

However, this power is rarely recognized as compared to the use of hard power and tough diplomatic negotiations. This International Conference is an effort to recognize and explore the expanse of cultural influence of India in the entire Asia and beyond through mutual cultural exchanges not through any colonial project. Cultural and religious developments in India including Buddhism and Hinduism, became major markers in India's close engagement with South East Asia, the other two relations are commerce and maritime connectivity. A close study shows that trade, connectivity, religious philosophy and culture travelled from India to South East Asia almost inseparably and at the same time over the centuries, and the epic Ramayana has evolved as a powerful symbol of a strong cultural connect between India and South East Asia. Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji in East Asian Summit held in Manila described the influence of Ramayana as India's deep civilizational and historical relations with ASEAN.

#### Objectives of the Conference:

This conference will discuss various renderings, interpretations and depictions of the Ramayana in South East Asian countries and how it has become a potent symbol of India's shared cultural heritage and integration with ASEAN. Ramayana is a classic example of how the assimilation of India's mythology and folklore has become an integral component of South East Asia's culture. The influence of Ramayana on Asian region beyond Indian subcontinent can be judged from the fact that the capital of Thailand was known in the 15th century as Ayutthaya, a derivative of Ayodhya, and the 18th-century King of Thailand, though a Buddhist by religion, took pride in proclaiming his royalist credentials by calling himself Rama I and made Ramakien, the local depiction of the Ramayana, the national epic.

Since the beginning the Ramayana has been a very popular tale in South East Asia however it underwent nuanced twists and interpretations by the locals and assimilated with the local folklores and characters. Versions different from the main narrative of the Ramayana Indians have come to know, and varied portrayals of the chief characters in the Indian versions of the epic, are available in Singapore and other South East Asian countries. However, the first part of Kakawin Ramayana in Indonesia is true to Valmiki's epic in India. Some of the major forms of Ramayana prevalent in the South East Asian region to be discussed in this conference are:

1. Ramakien in Thailand
2. Ramakerti in Cambodia
3. Phra Lak Phra Ram in Laos
4. Yama Zatdaw in Myanmar
5. Kakawin Ramayana in Indonesia
6. Hikayat Seri Rama in Malaysia



7. Along with textual renderings of Ramayana this conference will discuss dramatic and other artistic forms of Ramayana in Asian region for instance:
8. Scenes from the epic in the temples of Prambanan in Yogyakarta in Indonesia.
9. Scenes from the epic on the murals of the temple of the emerald Buddha in Bangkok,
10. Scenes from the epic on the remnants of the 12th-century Angkor Vat temple in Cambodia.
11. Murals based on the epic on the walls of the royal palace in Cambodian capital Phnom Penh.

#### **Impact of Conference on the policy making:**

This conference will have a major impact on policy making which can be understood in the light of the following statement made by Rabindranath Tagore in his book entitled Nationalism:

Europe truly is, namely one country made into many. Thus, Europe in its culture and growth has had the advantage of the strength of the many, as well as the strength of the one. India, on the contrary, being naturally many, yet adventitiously one has all along suffered from the looseness of its diversity and the feebleness of its unity.

He looks at Europe as a cultural unit a quality which he feels is absent in India however this conference is going to challenge this presumption and will discuss how not just India entire South East Asian region is a cultural unit and if people across the political borders realize this fact this region as well like Europe will also have the “advantage of the strength of the many, as well as the strength of the one”. India just like ancient times will have to rise to the occasion and be the torch bearer for the entire region however before that Indians should know that they are not just Indians they were the epicenter of culture and religion in this region and still they have to take the leading role in this region again as well. This conference will be a humble effort in this direction.

#### **Advisory Committee:**

- Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan, Chairman of ICCSR
- Prof. Raghavendra P. Tiwari, Vice Chancellor Central University, Punjab
- Prof. Jagat Bhushan Nadda, Honourable Director, CEC, New Delhi
- Prof. J. P. Pachauri, Vice Chancellor, Himalayiya University, Utrakahand
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- Prof. T. V. Kattimani Vice-Chancellor, Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh
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- Dr. Man Singh, Assistant Professor, NIT Kurukshetra
- Dr. Jyoti Sheoran, Dean Faculty of Humanities and Indic Studies, CRSU, Jind

**Registration Fees: Rs. 500**

**Important Dates:**

For submitting Abstract: 05 March 2022

For submitting Full Papers: 20 March, 2022

**Conference email id: [azadikaamritmahotsavramayana@gmail.com](mailto:azadikaamritmahotsavramayana@gmail.com)**

**Last Date to Pay Registration Fees Online: 10 March, 2022**

Registration Fee for paper Presentation in Physical Space (Maximum 50 Participants will be allowed) **Rs. 1000**

Registration Fee for ON Line Paper Presentation (Maximum 200 Participants) **Rs. 500**

Deposit Registration Fees of in the following account:

**PCMS.D. College for Women, Jalandhar**

**Account No:** 10091287594

**State Bank of India:** Mandi Fenton Ganj, Jalandhar

**IFSC code :** SBIN 0001642

**Please deposit fee along with abstract (All abstracts will be accepted)**

**Submit Registration fee receipt screenshot/pdf through registration link.**

**Only Selected papers (From Amongst submitted on or before 20 March 2022) will be published in a Book with ISBN Number and Rs. 700 extra (towards postal charges) to be paid at the time of full paper submission for publication if selected for publication.**

