Two Day UGC sponsored National Seminar on Popular Culture, Literature and Other Art Forms: Today and Beyond (18-19 January 2019)

Concept Note

The concept of ‘popular culture’ continues to remain a contentious subject. Popular culture is an inclusive phenomenon that consists of wide-ranging mediums from popular literature to other forms like films, television, web-series, newspapers, e-papers, social networking sites, video games, and more. Popular culture has redefined the concept of individual and society. The arrival of new forms of literature, which includes digital forms like Graphic novels, SMS novels, etc., have given new dimension to popular narrative. The concept has engaged the interest of young researchers towards it and in the process they are accepting all alternative mediums and breaking the dominant paradigms that claim to define literature and culture. Popular culture does not see art as a separate domain but a tool used to deconstruct the grand narratives of the past to be (re)read. It is important to deliberate upon the future of popular culture in relation to various advancements made in the domain of science and technology. Various socio-cultural developments in popular culture are giving rise to new economic and social theories and therefore the upcoming opportunities in the field of Humantities can be an important area of discussion for the seminar.

This event has also bridged the divide between the classical culture of elites and the culture of the masses; popular culture is primarily regarded as the culture of the masses. Popular culture is responsible for shaping new identities and popularizing various forms of art like music, painting, dance, folk art etc. Noam Chomsky says, “Real popular culture is folk art” —来临离开并说“流行的公共艺术是民间的”。Popular culture is also responsible for redefining some of the classical forms of literature. For example, the English novel is a popular form of literature in India, and the Indian novel is a popular form of literature in other countries. The spread of Yoga and oriental techniques of meditation are indicative of popular culture transcending geographical boundaries.

The present seminar is aimed at delving into various forms and aspects of literature, popular culture, and other forms in context of popular culture and its influence on the culture of today and tomorrow. We hope it to be a platform where eminent scholars and young researchers will come together, discuss, and create a constructive dialogue on a multi-faceted theme of the seminar. The event will bring together some of the leading scholars and researchers in the field of popular culture and literature with a view to engender a healthy debate on the subject.

Registration

Interested participants can send an abstract of about 300 words in latest MLA format with the requisite information (paper title, name, designation, affiliation, address, email ID & phone number to conferenceiksvy@gmail.com latest by 31st December 2018. Delegates are required to pay registration fees: Students and Research Scholars: Rs 500. Faculty Members and others: Rs. 1000. Registered participants will be provided conference kit and Lunch. No accommodation shall be provided to the participants however good hotels are available in Kharagpur and Rajkanathganj.

Reaching Kharagpur:

Indira Kala Sangit Vishwavidyalaya is situated at a tranquil and musical town Kharagpur. The University is well connected with railways and airport. The nearby railway stations are Rajkanathganj (55 KMs), Durg (50 KMs) and Raipur (100 KMs). Swami Vivekananda Airport (Mansa) is located at state capital Raipur, 110 KMs from Kharagpur. The climate remains pleasant in the month of January and one doesn’t require heavy winter clothes.