

Centre for Comparative Literature School of Humanities, University of Hyderabad, India

Researchers at Work Conference (RAW.CON 2014)

"Literature and Culture; Expanding Horizons: New Paradigms of Knowledge Production"

10 - 12 September, 2014 Hyderabad, India

RAW.CON or **Researchers at Work Conference**, in its fourth year, from the Centre for Comparative Literature, School of Humanities, University of Hyderabad, is a research initiative which broadly focuses on Literary and Cultural Studies. In the previous years, this conference looked at various issues of literatures, cultures and modernities. This year it proposes to explore new frontiers of knowledge production so as to understand how they contribute to research and analyses.

The idea of knowledge has been questioned profoundly from different positions, especially in a world where politics of identity asserts itself through various domains and what has been privileged as knowledge is called into question. Over time, knowledge has undergone major conceptual changes with various interventions and expansions. In addition, knowledge production in the recent times has altered its production, dissemination and reception in drastic ways. The everyday social, political and cultural identities are highly mediated by technologies. This mediation manifests itself in a broad range of circulatory practices which both dissolve and expand spatial, temporal and social boundaries, offering us new ways to represent the world. Knowledge production in contemporary world of 'New Media' visualizes identities through social networks and enlarges the concept of culture as a sphere of acceptance. The altered space and time juxtapose the material and the digital places, producing new forms of the 'social', while simultaneously renegotiating the political and social logics of local/global or private/public. It also augments the understanding of Culture and Literature as engaged in gaining historical knowledge to interpret contemporary situations.

Keeping all these as backdrop, RAW.CON 2014 calls for papers that connect new forms of knowledge, from all domains of literature and culture including ones that are mediated and facilitated by newer technologies, newer media, and newer modes of production. Terrains of textual making generating newer understandings through gender and queer, resistance literatures, texts through translation, *dalit* and minority writing, tribal literature, and, their possible interface with the available forms of technology will be focused upon.

Hence, RAW.CON 2014 seeks to raise questions such as how does 'new media' trigger and create new social phenomena. It intends to interpret the new-now that is mediated. What are the altered modes of communication, collaboration, and consumption of knowledge. How does it structure new forms of expression while transforming knowledge production and dissemination?

Abstracts are invited, but not limited to, the following areas:

- * Historiography of Digitization
- * Knowledge in Digital Domains
- * Newspaper and Publishing
- * Television, Advertisement, Photography
- * Video as Text and Narrative
- * Media, Intermedia and Interart
- * Archiving Folk Art and Forms
- * Translation and Knowledge Networks
- * Sports and Performance Studies
- * Gender and Sexuality
- * Language and Ideology
- * Margins and Popular Culture
- * Dalit, Tribal, Minority Discourses
- * Virtual Activism and Resistance
- * New and Emerging Areas and Forms of Literatures

Last date for submission of abstracts : 30 June 2014

Intimation of selection : 15 July 2014

Submission of full papers : 31 August 2014

Abstract should be emailed to: raw.con2014@uohyd.ac.in

Further, please visit: http://profiles.uohyd.ac.in/raw-con-2014 or www.ccluoh.in

The conference is exclusively for full time or independent 'research scholars', thus graduate, post-graduate students, senior teachers are humbly requested not to apply.

Abstracts should be around 250-300 words in Microsoft word (.docx) format. No way it should cross 300 words. Please write your full name, institution, contact details and current programme/year/semester of research in the body of the mail.

Papers will be screened through blind peer review process. Authors will be intimated accordingly.

The conference committee may think of separate sessions to accommodate short films, documentaries, digital documentation and archival work in these areas by researchers. Proposals are invited and are subject to the approval of the advisory committee.

Shared accommodation and food will be arranged for outstation participants. The conference committee will think of a limited number of minimum travel allowances depending upon the availability of funds.

Once the conference over, we hope to publish selected papers either in hard or e-book format.

If the outstation participants are interested, the conference committee may arrange a city tour on Saturday, 13th September, 2014 to the few important places in Hyderabad.

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