



67th All India English Teachers' Conference

Under the Aegis of
The Association for English Studies of India

On
*Crossroads of Culture:
English Studies and Indic Knowledge Systems*

December 9-11, 2024

Patron
Prof. Dr. Neerja Gupta
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
Gujarat University,
Ahmedabad

Chief Guest
Dr. Satyapal Singh
Former Minister of State for Education,
Govt. of India

Local Secretary
Prof. Dr. Nutan Kotak
Head, Department of English
Mob.: 9376114262

Organizing Secretary
Prof. Dr. Darshana Bhatt
Director, School of Languages

Convener
Prof. Dr. Dushyant Nimavat
Professor, Dept. of English
Mob.: 9825478612

General Secretary
Prof. Dr. Vikas Sharma
General Secretary, AESI
Mob.: 9410454723

Organized By
Department of English,
Gujarat University, Ahmedabad



About The University

Gujarat University, located in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, stands as a venerable institution of higher education tracing its roots to the 1920s, championed by iconic figures like Gandhiji and Sardar Patel. However, its formal establishment awaited the dawn of India's independence in 1949.

The university boasts a rich tapestry of distinguished alumni who have left an indelible mark across various spheres. Notable luminaries include India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, business tycoon Gautam Adani, scientist Dr. K. Kasturirangan, diplomat Shri Aziz Ahmadi, sociologist Ashish Nandy, and numerous others. Renowned for its academic excellence, Gujarat University offers a comprehensive range of postgraduate and doctoral programs spanning diverse disciplines, encompassing faculties in Arts, Science, Commerce, Education, Law, and Engineering.

The campus provides a conducive learning environment replete with modern amenities such as well-equipped classrooms, extensive libraries, advanced laboratories, sports facilities, and comfortable hostels, fostering holistic student development.

With a steadfast commitment to fostering research and innovation, Gujarat University champions interdisciplinary studies and actively promotes scholarly publication and academic contributions across disciplines.

Additionally, the university embraces a holistic approach to student development, promoting a vibrant extracurricular and cultural agenda through a myriad of events, seminars, workshops, and sports competitions. Supported by a distinguished faculty cohort, Gujarat University provides mentorship and guidance to nurture academic excellence and talent among its students.

About The Department

The Department of English was established in July 1963 and currently offers Ph.D. and M.A. programs with a comprehensive orientation encompassing not only the literary canon of the British Isles and America but also emerging literatures, including Indian Writing in English. Its rich resources facilitate research across various branches of English Literature. Current faculty members include Professor Dr. Darshana Bhatt, Director, School of Languages, Professor Dr. Nutan Kotak, Head of Department, and Professor Dr. Dushyant Nimavat.

The department fosters diverse research activities spanning British, American, Canadian, Commonwealth, and Indian English Literature, ensuring regular contributions from visiting scholars, thereby fostering a dynamic academic milieu.



GUJARAT UNIVERSITY

Estd. 1949

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GUJARAT UNIVERSITY



Association for English Studies of India

In the early 1930s, Indian scholars of English Literature began to feel the need of a platform where scholars of English Literature of the country could assemble to discuss and deliberate various issues related to the English teaching and research in India.

As a result, the first formal association was formed at Allahabad University in the year 1937 and with the passage of time the Association took its shape as The Indian Association for English Studies (IAES). Later on, it was registered in 2007 as The Association for English Studies of India (AESI). Keeping in view the aims and objectives of AESI, its governing body plans and executes its academic activities. Organizing an Annual Conference once in a year in any part of India is one of the major activities of the Association. So far sixty-six such conferences have already been organized successfully in different parts of India. The official website of the AESI is www.aesi-india.org which can be accessed to get the information about various types of memberships offered as well as other academic activities like the publication of The Indian Journal of English Studies, conferences etc.

Concept Note

Crossroads of Culture: English Studies and Indic Knowledge Systems

India has since long captured a specific place of cultural reverence in the world, due to its rich tapestry of thoughts and discourses both in the material and spiritual realms. Classical Indian heterodoxy is based on scientific inquiry, where instruments like 'pramana' and 'yukti' contest the realm of uninformed and dogmatic beliefs. The 'interplay of diverse cultural groups' that has constructed the intricate web of Indic Knowledge Systems has also drawn attention from the West due to its dynamic nature, which has defied the rigid Western ideas of religious and cultural organization and unity. As a result, Western thinkers, authors, philosophers, and mystics from Aldous Huxley to Ralph Waldo Emerson have looked eastward; and these journeys were often a struggle between world-affirming material presence and world-denouncing metaphysical immanence. Perceiving the crisis of faith in the West, Nietzsche wrote 'Will it perhaps be said of us one day that we too, steering westward, hoped to reach an India - but that it was our fate to be wrecked against infinity?' In the Western mind, Indic Knowledge Systems represent precisely this paradox, incomprehensibility against the comprehensible, heterogeneity against homogeneity, and infinity against the finite. We live in a time of paradoxes - when exciting literary and artistic experiments and developments of disembodied consciousness take place side by side with increasing geopolitical tension and ecological destruction across the globe.

In these contemporary times, Anglophone studies have ventured out of the central territory of British Literature, embracing decolonization, taking myriad new avenues of literary and cultural exploration to chart the margins and initiate a global dialogue marked by social justice, humane equity, and cultural diversity. In these uncertain times, establishing a meaningful nexus between English Studies and Indic Knowledge Systems may help foster fresh perspectives in critical ontological, empirical, aesthetic, hermeneutic, ecocritical, postcolonial, and semiotic discourses. United Nations Human Development Report 2021-22 notes how 'Indigenous philosophies situate each generation as part of a "series of never-ending beginnings" —each born in the imaginations of generations past, with the responsibility to set the course for the journeys that follow'. Therefore, the 67th All India English Teachers' Conference aims to cultivate a specific mode of thinking among the generation of young scholars bridging the distinct worldviews and overlapping cultures of the East and the West, hoping to make 'the twain' meet, to borrow a phrase from Rudyard Kipling.

The conference organizers invite papers on topics including but not limited to:

Ecological Consciousness in Indic Knowledge Systems
Hindu Revivalism and Anticolonial Struggle
Encounters between Indic Knowledge and Literary Modernism/Postmodernism
Vedanta and American Philosophy
Oral Traditions and Indic Knowledge Systems
Upanishadic Metaphysics and Posthumanism
Critical Ontological Perspectives in Indian Mystical Writing
Plurality and Hybridity in Indic Knowledge Systems
The intersection of gender, caste, and ethnicity in Indic Knowledge Systems
The Ethnopoetics of Indian Indigenous Groups
The universality of Jain epistemology
Buddhist Ethics in World Literature
Indian Critical Tradition Modernism/Postmodernism

Guidelines for Submitting the Research Papers:

Research scholars who are interested to participate in the 67th All India English Teachers' Conference (AIETC) under the aegis of the AESI, are strictly advised to prepare and submit their research papers as per the following guidelines:

1. Papers for presentation in the 67th All India English Teachers' Conference (AIETC) under the aegis of the AESI will be accepted in MS Word only.
2. Research paper must be typed in Times New Roman, in font size 12 for regular text and font size 14 for titles with double spacing.

3. The maximum word limit of a research paper is 2500 - 3000, including abstract in 200 words.
4. The paper must have an abstract followed by keywords.
5. Latest MLA Style (9th Edition of MLA Handbook) must be used for all citations in the papers.
6. Names of authors may be put only at the right margin of the page below the main title and short biographical note with email and contact number at the end of the paper.
7. Research Papers without registration fees shall not be accepted.
8. The accepted research papers must be submitted at the earliest.
9. Abstract and complete research papers must be sent to the following email address- englishdepartmentgu@gmail.com
10. Hard Copy of research papers must be submitted at the time of presentation in the Conference.
11. It is mandatory to mention the broad area of the sub-theme of the Conference.

After the completion of the Conference, the proceedings would be published in the form of a book with an ISBN number.

Important Dates

Last Date for Submission of the Abstract:	Sept. 30, 2024
Abstract Acceptance Confirmation by:	Oct. 10, 2024
Last Date for Submission of Fees:	Oct. 30, 2024
Submission of the Full Paper:	Nov 30, 2024

AESI Membership

The All-India English Teachers' Conference (AIETC) is open to the members of The Association for English Studies of India (AESI) only. Therefore, those who want to participate in the Conference should have membership of the Association.

They should send Rs. 3025 / - for Life Membership or Rs. 325/- for Annual Membership.

The payment of fee should be made in favour of "The Association for English Studies of India". The cheque or DD along with personal details should be sent to Dr. Bhavesh Chandra Pandey, Treasurer, AESI, Head, Department of English, University of Munger, Munger- 811201 (Mobile: 8809650507).

NEFT / RTGS or any other mode of payment can be opted.

Details of the Account are as follows:

Name of the Account:

The Association for English Studies of India

Branch: Saguna More, Patna

Account No.: 4649000100014757

IFSC: PUNB0757700

The proof of the deposit along with personal details should be sent to the Treasurer through

Email: pand850@gmail.com

For further details, visit the official website of the Association:- www.aes-india.org

It is to be noted that the AESI Membership Fee is different from the Delegate Registration Fee. The former is collected by AESI itself while the latter by the Local Secretary of the Conference. To be a participant of AIETC, it is mandatory to have membership (AM / LM) of

Registration Fee for the Conference

Delegate:	3500/-
Research Scholar:	2500/-
Local Student:	1000/-

NOTE : Scanned copy of registration fee receipt (for 67th AIETC) must be sent along with the Abstract and personal details to the following email: englishdepartmentgu@gmail.com

Conference Registration Form: <https://tinyurl.com/yck96vdp>

Bank Details

Registration Fees for the 67th Conference should be deposited in the following account:

Account Name: GU ENGLISH DEPT NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024

Account No.: 50200100570128

Bank Name: HDFC BANK

Branch: NAVRANGPURA BRANCH

IFSC Code: HDFC0000006

Connectivity

Ahmedabad is very well connected through air, rail, and road. Gujarat University is a well-known icon of Ahmedabad and is easily accessible. The university is well-connected with other parts of the city via Ahmedabad Municipal Transport Service (AMTS) and Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) bus services. Also, Ahmedabad Metro offers commuting facilities to passengers through East-West and North-South corridors.

Climate

For traveling to Ahmedabad, the best time is during winter, as the weather is very pleasant and apt to explore the beautiful Ahmedabad city. The average temperature during December ranges from around 28°C to 31°C, providing a comfortable and enjoyable climate for outdoor activities. The days are usually sunny and pleasant, with clear skies and moderate humidity.

(Apply for membership online: www.aes-india.org)

Tourist Places

Ahmedabad is the first Indian city to be bestowed the status of world-heritage city by UNESCO. It was once popularly known as the 'Manchester of India'.

Ahmedabad is home to the famous Sabarmati Ashram and will charm you with its iconic mosques, tombs, museums and vibrant bazaars.

The city fascinates tourists with its rich heritage. The best time to visit Ahmedabad is from November to February.

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Accommodation

We have limited accommodation available on campus, which will be provided on first-cum-first-serve basis. The rest will have to arrange the accommodation on their own. Enclosed is the list of hotels that will provide discount on tariff:

1. Hotel Swagat Inn- App.
Rs. 2,268 for two nights.
2. Hotel Safari Inn- App.
Rs. 2,398 for two nights.
3. Hotel Sarovar Inn- App.
Rs. 3,000 for two nights.
4. Hotel Privilion- App.
Rs. 3,000 for two nights.

(Apply for membership online: www.aes-india.org)

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Prof. Dr. Nutan Kotak
Local Secretary, 67th AIETC

Contact numbers in case of queries:

1. Ajay Panchal- 9574449018
2. Ankit Kumar- 7383614920
3. Atif Mandori- 8238475271
4. Mahesh Dangar- 8169478091