



An ICSSR-sponsored International Conference

Understanding Bharat through Bhashas

Multilingual Landscape | Eleven Thematic Sessions | One Civilisation in Transformation

20th - 21st November, 2026

Organising Institution: Doon University, Dehradun

Knowledge Partner: Valley of Words, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Bharat, as an ethos, is characterized by multiplicity and pluralism, and yet, a unifying force binds this diversity together. The *Bharatiya* civilization has provided a beacon for addressing global concerns; from ancient philosophy to modern technology, it is a reality most vividly captured in its linguistic landscape. *Bhashas* are the heritage of a civilisation, expressions of identity, and tools of political negotiations. Each one offers a medium to explore the vast repository of cultures and histories entwined with it. With the emergence of our nation as a significant global power, there is a pressing need to revisit the narrative of contemporary *Bharat* through the prism of languages – both Indian and Foreign. This academic conference will bring together writers, translators, academics, and scholars to explore the multiple nuances implicit in the idea that is *Bharat*.

Alongside contributions in the languages of the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India and their corresponding translations, the conference invites manuscript submissions in several global languages. A crucial aim here is to interpret how the gaze on *Bharat* is reflected in/through multiple languages - both Indian as well as foreign.

This conference is designed keeping in mind an interdisciplinary approach as envisaged in NEP 2020, encouraging participants to view linguistic and literary practices in and about *Bharat* – its indigenous knowledge systems – as sites of social critique, political deliberations, ecological consciousness, and civic engagement. Spread across eleven thematic sessions, the conference offers a forum to young researchers to interact with eminent authors and academicians and engage with pertinent national (and global) issues vis-a-vis the discourse on language.

“If God so wished, he could have made all Indians speak one language...The unity of India has been and will always be Unity in Diversity.”

- Rabindranath Tagore

ABOUT THE HOST INSTITUTION

Doon University, Dehradun

Established in 2005 by the Government of Uttarakhand, Doon University is a NAAC-accredited state public university set in the Shivalik foothills on the banks of the Rispana River. Its 52-acre campus sits at the edge of Dehradun- India's education capital - surrounded by sal forests and mountain air, offering a uniquely immersive academic environment.

Approved by the UGC and governed by the Doon University Act (2005), it offers multidisciplinary programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral levels across schools.

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES — THE ORGANISING SCHOOL

Founded in 2010, the School of Languages (SoL) is an emerging trendsetter in multilingual education, the only university in Uttarakhand and one of the very few in India to offer four-year undergraduate and Master's programmes under NEP across five foreign languages and English, as well as PhD programmes. Its six departments, language multimedia labs, and research initiatives (SoL-Dialogue, SoL-Screen, SoL-Expressions) uniquely position it to host a conference exploring India through its Bhashas and select foreign languages.

Departments: Chinese Studies | English | French & Francophone Studies | German Studies | Japanese Studies | Spanish Studies

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES - Analyse how Bharat is perceived across languages and cultures - Facilitate dialogue between Indian-language texts, translations, works in English and select foreign languages - Investigate how Indian realities travel across linguistic borders - Connect emerging scholars with established literary and media voices - Capture India's evolving self-perception in global cultural flows	PARTICIPATION FORMATS Academic Sessions Papers by scholars, writers, and translators on the eleven themes Poster Gallery Visual summaries of research for networking and informal exchange Emerging Scholars Forum Scholars presenting critical interpretations of literary and non-literary texts
---	--

ELEVEN THEMATIC SESSIONS

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
The Himalayas	Regional Voices from North India	Poetics of Contemporary Bharat
Geography	Regional Voices	Contemporary Voices
Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
India from afar in French & Francophone Perspectives	From Past with the Present Spanish & Latin American Responses	Twentieth to Twenty-first Century India
Global Gaze	Global Gaze	Growth & Aspiration
Session 7	Session 8	Session 9
The Politics of Language	Viksit Bharat @2047: Language and Symbols of Digital World	India in Chinese Writings: Historical & Contemporary Perspectives
Language & Power	Future India	Global Gaze
Session 10	Session 11	
India-Japan Linguistic & Cultural Responses	Indian Reception in Germany: Perspectives from Past and Present	
Global Gaze	Global Gaze	

SUB-THEMES

Literary portraits of urban and rural India	Migration and diasporic narratives
Environmental writing and ecological consciousness	Historical memory and political imagination
Technology, modernity, and changing social fabric	Translation as cultural negotiation
Folk traditions and contemporary cultural expressions	India in global languages: external and internal gazes
Marginalised voices and subaltern narratives	Digital humanities and new forms of storytelling

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Peer-reviewed edited volume or special journal issue. - Policy recommendations for multilingual literary ecosystems in higher education.	- Network for future collaborative research projects. - Intergenerational dialogue between scholars and academicians.
---	--

ORGANISERS & PARTNERS

ORGANISERS	School of Languages, Doon University Valley of Words (Knowledge Partner)
PARTNERS	ICSSR, Sahitya Akademi, Indian Association of Teachers of French (IATF) Garhwal Post / The Print / News Trust / Newpost House of Himalayas (Gifting Partner)

Chief Patron:

Prof. Surekha Dangwal, Vice Chancellor, Doon University

Convenor:

Prof. Chetana Pokhriyal, Dean, School of Languages, Doon University

Organising Committee Members:

Dr Richa Joshi Pandey: Assistant Professor, Dept. of English
Ms Tanvi Negi: Assistant Professor & Head I/C. Dept. of Chinese Studies
Dr Shanky Chandra: Assistant Professor, Dept. of Chinese Studies
Mr Madhurendra Jha: Assistant Professor, Dept. of Chinese Studies
Dr Vipul Goswami: Assistant Professor & Head I/C. Dept. of German Studies
Mr Chandrika Kumar: Assistant Professor, Dept. of German Studies
Ms Priyanka: Assistant Professor, Dept. of German Studies
Dr Swagata Basu: Assistant Professor & Head I/C. Dept. of Spanish Studies
Dr Deepika Bhatia: Assistant Professor & Head I/C, Dept. of Japanese Studies
Dr Ravi Kumar: Assistant Professor, Dept. of Japanese Studies
Dr Varun Dev Sharma: Assistant Professor & Head I/C. Dept. of French & Francophone Studies
Ms Shubhra Kukreti: Assistant Professor, Dept. of French & Francophone Studies

Advisory Committee Members:

Dr Sanjeev Chopra: Ex-Director, LBSNAA, Director, Valley of Words
Prof. Rajendra P. Mamgain, Prof., Dean & HOD, Economics, Doon University, Dehradun
Dr Rahul Gairola: The Krishna Somers Senior Lecturer in English & Postcolonial Literature. Co-Editor, Routledge/Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA) South Asia Book Series
Dr Anita Singh: Department of English, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Fulbright-Nehru Visiting Lecturer, University of Virginia.
Prof. Ranu Uniyal: Retd. Professor, Department of English and Modern European Languages, Commonwealth Scholar, University of Hull, Kingston Upon Hull, UK (1988-1992)
Prof. Kalpana Purohit: Professor & Head, Department of English, Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
Prof. Rana Nayar: Former Professor and Head of the Department of English and Cultural Studies at Panjab University, Chandigarh

CALL FOR PAPERS

Academic Sessions · Poster Presentations · Emerging Scholars Forum

- Submit abstracts to: conferencesol2026@doonuniversity.ac.in
- Abstract Submission Guidelines: APA Citation and Referencing Style
- Abstract Word Limit: 350-500 words (with 5-6 keywords)
- Abstract Submission Deadline: 30th Sept 2026
- Date of Acceptance: 10th Oct 2026
- Submission of the Full Paper: 30th Oct 2026
- Presenting author's contact details/email address should be the same as the submitting author so that the presenting author receives correspondence about the abstract.

Working languages: English, Hindi, Spanish, Chinese, French, Japanese, and German

* submissions accepted in all Indian languages in the Eighth Schedule along with their mandatory translations into English/Hindi

Registration Fee Details:

International Participants: \$ 50

Indian Participants: -

- Academicians: INR 2000/-
- Research Scholars: INR 1000/-
- University Students: INR 500/-

Limited paid shared accommodation will be provided on first-cum, first-served basis.

Register for the Conference:

Google Form Registration Link

<https://forms.gle/UqxFDCT4dUrrppKLg9>



Payment Details:

Account Name: DOON UNIVERSITY-TRAINING/SEMINAR/WORKSH OP/CONFERENCE
Account Number: 45196172834
IFSC: SBIN0017290

In case of any queries, please contact at conferencesol2026@doonuniversity.ac.in or (+91-9997351225; +91-9634418859)