

## Organizing Committee

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### Members:

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### Darjeeling Research Scholars' Group:

This conference is an initiative of the civil society of Darjeeling to bring together on a single forum, the scholars who have emerged from the region and are looking forward to an opportunity to return their resourcefulness for the enhancement of the life and culture of Darjeeling.

Chairman: Mr. Udaya Mani Pradhan

Members: Binayak Sundas, JNU, Delhi  
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Mona Chettri, SU  
Garima Rai, DU  
Payodhi Pradhan, ADBU  
Rafat Ali, JU  
Shreyashri Chettri, JU  
and others.

### Important Dates:

Last Date for submission of Abstract: 10 Jan, 2017  
Acceptance Notification: 15 Jan 2017  
Last date for Submission of full paper: 15 Feb 2017  
Acceptance Notification: 20th Feb 2017  
Last Date for Registration: 28th Feb 2017

### Registration :

(Registration fee to be paid online,  
www.salesiancollege.in, or, offline on the first day  
of the Conference)

### Fee:

College/University Faculty: Rs1000  
Research Scholars: Rs 500  
e-mail : dehmda@salesiancollege.net  
principal@salesiancollege.net

### General Guidelines:

Abstract of the proposed paper must be within 300 words in English without references.  
The full paper must be within 3000-5000 words in English. Title of the abstract must be in bold, Times New Roman, Font size 14. The content must be typed in Times New Roman, font 12, left indented and 1.5 line spacing.  
Both the abstract and full paper must be submitted via e-mail within the stipulated dates.  
No TA/DA and other allowances will be provided for attending the seminar.

### SPONSORS:



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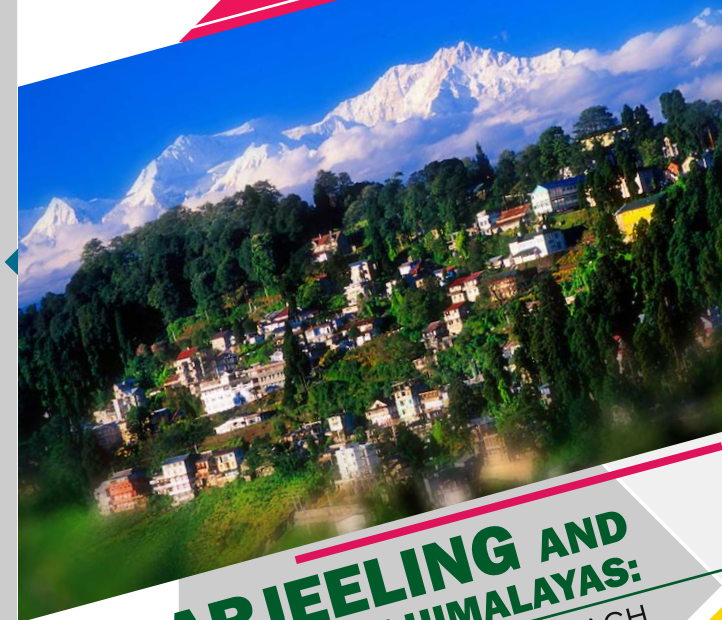
### How to Reach:



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# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON



## DARJEELING AND THE EASTERN HIMALAYAS: A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY APPROACH 14-15 March, 2017

Organised by  
IQAC, SRC & DRSG

### SALESIAN COLLEGE SONADA

UGC certified College with Potential for Excellence (CPE) &  
Accredited by NAAC(2<sup>ND</sup> Cycle) with 'A' Grade  
and CGPA of 3.16 out of 4,  
Affiliated to the University of North Bengal.



Kunal Photography

Salesian College is a Government recognized, minority institution of the Catholic Church, run by the Salesians of Don Bosco, Kolkata Province where the students do their regular B.A, B.Sc, B.Com, BBA and BCA studies under the University of North Bengal.

Salesian College, established in Shillong, in 1933, was shifted to Sonada, in 1938. It is one of the founding colleges of NBU(1962). In 2009, the college opened its new campus in Siliguri. It has also been declared as a college with Potential for Excellence and accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade.

This conference is being co-hosted by the departments of English (1969), History(1978) and Philosophy (1989) of Salesian College Sonada, carrying forward their commitment to the empowerment of the young men and women of the region in collaboration with the local scholars and enlightened members of Darjeeling Civil Society.

## **DARJEELING AND THE EASTERN HIMALAYAS: A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY APPROACH**

The Eastern Himalayan borderland is an extremely important and interesting region with immense potential for academic research and exploration. Cradled between the dominant cultures of northern India and southern Tibet, the Eastern Himalayan borderland is a space where culture, history and politics reflect a unique amalgam of two civilizations.

Nonetheless different spaces illustrate the influence of specific culture and political systems. Owing to

close geographical proximity, mountainous areas like Sikkim, Bhutan, Tawang experienced dominance of Tibetan high culture while many low lying areas like Morang, Makwanpur and Vijaypur came under the ambit of north Indian culture. The Eastern Himalayas, therefore, represents a kaleidoscope of culture, history and people that is exclusive to the region. This exclusivity provides a new direction in understanding the Eastern Himalaya and its engagement with and within contemporary discussions and debates in global, national and local context.

The conference is aimed at bringing forth issues and perspectives on the Eastern Himalaya, which for the purposes of this conference extends from the Eastern Nepal to Bhutan. The conference seeks to encapsulate the history, culture, politics and dynamism of everyday life of the region. It is an attempt to understand the region better as well as to understand the world through perspectives of the region.

The conference will facilitate the convergence of researchers from different countries studying different aspects of the Eastern Himalaya and enable the exchange of ideas and dissemination of knowledge. The conference aims to give voice to research emerging from the region and explore the commonalities and differences between the different areas that constitute the Eastern Himalaya. Further, it seeks to promote new pathways of understanding the region and to promote more research on the same.

### **Themes:**

- Histories and memories: The conference will address this lacuna by inviting papers that focus on social, political, and economic history of the region and of the peoples living in the region. Papers on various forms of traditional, indigenous, alternative historical knowledge systems specific to the region will also be encouraged.
- Culture and identity: Papers pertaining to

different aspects of culture during different periods of time, the transitions that are being made and the evolution of the eastern Himalayan culture will be discussed under this theme.

- Trade, economy exchange and migration: The conference will engage in an analysis of the networks of trade, different communities and their history of movement in the region, different forms and reasons for migration, the impact of globalization on trade, indigenous economy and agriculture.
- Folk culture and popular culture: Discussion of various forms of popular culture and folk cultures (music, dance, paintings, handicraft, theatre and films) influences on one another and the impact of popular culture on the politics and society of the region and vice versa.
- Industries, development and sustainability: The Eastern Himalaya offers immense potential for industrial development (tea, tourism and hydro-power) and agriculture. Discussion of issues pertaining to development (issues of sustainability, conflict over resources and threat to traditional patterns of agriculture, forestry and under development), its interpretations and impact on the landscape, ecology, culture and society.
- Gender, society and modernity: The conference seeks to contextualize social issues like caste system, racism, regionalism, domestic violence, child labor, patriarchy, and gender based violence in their local, regional context and analyze the inherent disconnect between claims to modernity and the persistence of these issues even today.
- Education, language and literature: With shared history, language and culture there is a free flow of literary influences and impacts across borders and the aim of this theme is to highlight the role of education in the development of literature, the emerging forms and/or re-interpretation of traditional forms of literary expressions as well as indigenous literary traditions of the region.