

CALL FOR PAPERS

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) sponsored
Online National Seminar organized by the Department of History, Tetso College
in collaboration with Sacred Heart College, Vellore

10th & 11th February, 2022

THE QUEST FOR EMANCIPATION

INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS AMONG THE DALITS AND TRIBES IN INDIA

The Quest for Emancipation: Intellectual Traditions among the Dalits and Tribes in India

Dalits and Tribes are two sections of the Indian society who have been historically marginalised, kept out of the ambit of the mainstream and subjected to socio-economic degradation. However, it was the encounter with colonialism, which brought about drastic changes in the lives of people belonging to these communities. The trajectory of the socio-political and economic changes these communities underwent as a result of colonial intervention, was contrastingly different, but had certain similarities too. The introduction of education by the British government, led to the emergence of a number of intellectuals among the Dalits and Tribes during the late 19th and the 20th centuries. The intellectuals took upon the task of rescuing their communities from the status of degradation, by reconstructing their historical past. These intellectual activities led to the emergence of diverse philosophical traditions. These ideologues laid the foundation for the emergence of political movements of the subalterns, which continue to have contemporary ramifications

The study of intellectual traditions is crucial to understand the processes of history, to understand socio-political factors that gave rise to the different streams of thought and the impact of ideas in shaping the future of societies. Intellectual history or history of ideas has made considerable progress ever since it has come to be recognised as a separate field of history. Intellectual history can frequently involve a close reconstruction of philosophical arguments as they have been recorded in formal philosophical texts. In this respect, intellectual history may bear a noteworthy resemblance to philosophy, and most especially, the history of philosophy. But intellectual history remains importantly distinct from philosophy for a number of reasons. Most importantly, philosophy tends to disregard differences of history or cultural context so as to concentrate almost exclusively upon the internal coherence of philosophical arguments in themselves

The intense intellectual turmoil during the colonial period led to the emergence of diverse ideologies and this intellectual evolution was firmly rooted in cultural struggles. Most of the indigenous intellectual traditions, which emerged, were responses to the process of acculturation that was happening as part of the colonial hegemonization and they were not uniform in nature as they varied from acceptance and acquiescence to resentment and opposition. The demeaning nature of the colonial acculturation process seemed to disturb the indigenous cultural sensibilities and it can be said that the diverse intellectual traditions largely grew out of contestation between the traditional and colonial ideologies, though it was an unequal contest.

Studies in Indian intellectual traditions have primarily concentrated on ideologues who have been acceptable to mainstream society. The numerous subaltern intellectuals whose well-grounded and powerful ideas that have questioned the existing societal norms and disturbed the mainstream sensibilities, have not found sufficient space in academic research. Study of the intellectual aspects of the subaltern groups will add new dimensions to the existing scholarship.

The proposed webinar will host a number of scholars from different parts of the country, working on the intellectual aspects of the Dalit and Tribal movements. The webinar seeks to host a number of established academicians and at the same time we would encourage young scholars to present their work. The webinar would provide a valuable opportunity for young researchers to engage with well-established scholars, which would help enhance their own research. The papers presented in the webinar will be brought as an edited volume with a reputed publisher.

Convenor

Dr Tatongkala
Assistant Dean
School of Social Sciences
Tetso College, Dimapur, Nagaland

Co-convenor

Dr. D. Leslin
Associate Professor and Head
Department of History
Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Tirupattur, Tamil Nadu



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Focus of the Webinar

- To study the emergence of the intellectual traditions among the Dalits and Tribals in India.
- To examine the role played by the intellectuals in re-engaging and rewriting the histories of their communities.
- To discuss the ideas which emerged from their engagement with various socio-political and economic issues of the Indian society.
- To identify the role of intellectuals in the emergence of the subaltern political consciousness.
- To identify and discuss the political activities taken up by these leaders in forming associations and mobilizing people.
- To discuss the contemporary significance of the subaltern movements.

Sub-Themes

- The following sub-themes are envisaged as the main focus of the webinar.
1. Intellectual history of the Dalit and Tribal movements in India
 2. Interface of the Dalits and Tribes with colonial modernity
 3. The emergence of subaltern intellectuals
 4. Engagement of Dalit and Tribes with religion
 5. Engagement of Dalit and Tribes with gender
 6. Engagement of Dalit and Tribes with nationalism
 7. Engagement of Dalit and Tribes with science and technology
 8. Dalit and Tribal literature
 9. Oral traditions
 10. Emergence of the subaltern political consciousness and movements

The above areas of concern are indicative but not exhaustive.

Participants can present papers on other areas not indicated above but that are closely connected with the theme of the Webinar

Important Dates:

Abstract submission: 6th January 2022
Acceptance notification: 10th January 2022
Full Paper submission: 8th February 2022

Submission Guidelines:

Abstract submission : 250 - 300 words
Full paper : 2500 - 3500 words
Abstract can be emailed to:
historydepartment@tetsocollege.org

Certificates:

1. Hard copy certificates will be sent to all paper presenters. There are no fees for paper presenters.
2. e-Certificate will be given to all registered participants who attend all sessions.

Details to be submitted along with the abstract :

1. Name
2. Designation
3. Contact Number
4. Correspondence Address

Registration fee for participants: Rs. 100/- + GST

REGISTRATION LINK

bit.ly/historyCFP

FOR QUERIES

historydepartment@tetsocollege.org



ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

Tetso College, established in 1994, is a Nagaland University (NU) affiliated college and NAAC accredited. It is a multi-campus College with Sovima Campus as the headquarter situated in Sovima Village, Dimapur, Nagaland. The other campuses are Unity Campus (in Unity Village), City Campus (in Notun Bosti) and Tenyiphe Campus. The College offers courses ranging from HSSLC upto Post Graduation. Under the Bachelor's degree programme the courses offered are English, Linguistics, Political Science, Economics, History, Education, Sociology, Psychology, BA General, B.Com Honors and General, BBA, BCA, and Post-graduate courses in English and Political Science. The college further runs a few professional courses under [ALS UPSC Coaching](#), [Clef Note Music Academy](#), and [IIHT](#).

The word '[Tetso](#)' has been derived from the indigenous Rengma Naga language, meaning '[Top](#)'. Incorporating that principle along with the motto of the college; '[Strive for Excellence](#)', the college takes priority in ensuring the students an effective educational foundation. The college aims to equip students intellectually and morally so that they can act as a catalyst to society's development.