

JULY 24-26, 2026

GAUTAM BUDDHA UNIVERSITY,
GREATER NOIDA



AAC ON IKS



2nd Annual Academic Conference on Indian Knowledge Systems

IKS: Re-weaving the Threads of Knowledge



www.theiksha.org/conference

About IKSHA

IKS and Heritage Association (IKSHA) is a non-profit organization (Section-8 company) dedicated to preserving and promoting Bhārat's rich cultural heritage and knowledge systems.



Purpose

To establish a platform for excellence aimed at positioning Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) as an alternative to the dominant paradigm across multiple domains

Approach

A concerted effort to create a more diverse and inclusive academic environment and an attempt to address historical oversights

IKSHA views Indian Knowledge Systems not merely as historical artifacts, but as a profound, living framework for reflecting on the world. Our vision is to establish a global platform for excellence, positioning IKS as a rigorous alternative to dominant contemporary paradigms across multiple domains. By documenting, conserving, and disseminating Bhārat's traditional sciences, arts, and philosophies, we aim to rectify the exclusionary nature of modern knowledge systems. Through this integration of enduring intellectual heritage, we strive to infuse diversity, pluralism, and inclusivity into the global educational enterprise, fostering a condition of possibility for the pursuit of happiness (Ānanda) for every individual.

To achieve this, IKSHA is committed to building a robust ecosystem for knowledge creation and institutionalization through strategic academic collaborations. Our mission focuses on capacity building and nurturing future generations with the cultural cognition and scholarly rigor necessary to address modern challenges. By developing immersive training programs for the public and engaging stakeholders across business and government, we aim to mainstream IKS globally. Ultimately, IKSHA seeks to foster a culture of deliberation and intercultural exchange, creating an academic environment where Indian ways of being can contribute meaningfully to a more inclusive and pluralistic global discourse.

IKSHA's Pillars



IKSHA operates through the following strategic verticals to build a robust IKS ecosystem:

DIIKSHA (108+ PhD Initiative)

A dedicated fellowship program to establish a future generation of scholars by supporting and mentoring rigorous PhD and Post-doctoral work in Indian Knowledge Systems.

Journal of Indian Knowledge Systems (JIKS)

Published by Brill, this biannual international journal facilitates high-quality scholarly expressions and unifies IKS research across cognitive, philosophical, social, and scientific domains.

Annual IKS Sangama

A premier forum bringing together scholars, spiritual leaders, industry, and government stakeholders to brainstorm strategic matters. Previous editions were held in Pune and Gujarat.

Annual Academic Conference

An international platform dedicated to cultivating peer-reviewed scholarship and authentic frameworks, bringing together global researchers and journal editors to integrate traditional insights with contemporary academic discourse.

SAMIKSHA

An interdisciplinary meeting series designed to catalyze a new paradigm of research by matchmaking experts across traditional Śāstras and modern sciences to break disciplinary silos and foster real-world societal impact.

About Gautam Buddha University

Established in 2002 by the Uttar Pradesh Act, Gautam Buddha University (GBU) is an internationally recognised state university sprawling across a 511-acre eco-friendly campus in Greater Noida. The university upholds rigorous academic standards, evidenced by its ISO 9001:2008 certification, and offers a diverse range of professional programs in fields such as Law and Management. Beyond technical proficiency, GBU integrates human values and ethical development into its core curriculum, drawing inspiration from Bhārat's civilizational legacy and the inclusive vision of Gautam Buddha.

The university serves as a vibrant hub for interdisciplinary research through dedicated centers like the School of Buddhist Studies & Civilization and the Center of Linguistics and Culture Studies. By fostering an environment where ancient Bhāratīya insights engage with modern scholarship, GBU remains a leader in nurturing socially responsible and intellectually driven individuals. Given its commitment to classical Bhāratīya thought and high-quality research, **Gautam Buddha University is proud to host the 2nd Annual Academic Conference on Indian Knowledge Systems, 2026.**



Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) represent a vast, millennia-old repository of intellectual traditions spanning from deep epistemic inquiries to applied engineering sciences. Historically, these insights have remained comparatively underexplored within dominant academic frameworks, resulting in limited global engagement with Bhārat's rich intellectual traditions and reducing opportunities for younger scholars to pursue sustained inquiry in this field.

Today, as Bhārat's global presence rises, IKS is experiencing a powerful resurgence. However, to ensure this revival remains authentic and to avoid force-fitting our civilizational experiences into alien Western paradigms, there is a critical need for a rigorous, decolonial pursuit of knowledge.



About the Conference

The Second Annual Academic Conference on IKS is envisioned as a premier international platform dedicated to cultivating genuine, peer-reviewed scholarship. By bringing together diverse voices, we aim to systematically build a strong body of literature that honors the true motive of the IKS resurgence and benefits the global intellectual ecosystem.

Conference Objectives



Promote Rigorous Scholarship: Recognize, encourage, and support high-quality academic research and publication within the IKS domain.



Foster Intellectual Dialogue: Provide a dynamic forum for global academics, researchers, and journal editors to present scholarship and engage in meaningful discourse.



Develop Authentic Frameworks: Formulate new theories and creative applications rooted in IKS to address contemporary global challenges.



Bridge Knowledge Systems: Encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration to seamlessly integrate traditional IKS with contemporary fields.



Cultivate Future Leaders: Nurture the next generation of IKS scholars by building supportive networks and facilitating mentorship with celebrated senior academics.



Facilitate Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration: Offer a collaborative platform for industry, government, and civil society to explore joint research projects with direct societal relevance.



Conference Themes

IKS: Re-weaving the Threads of Knowledge

The conference arrives at a pivotal civilizational juncture, tasked with the strategic stewardship of a knowledge system that has survived millennia of distortion to find a new dawn.

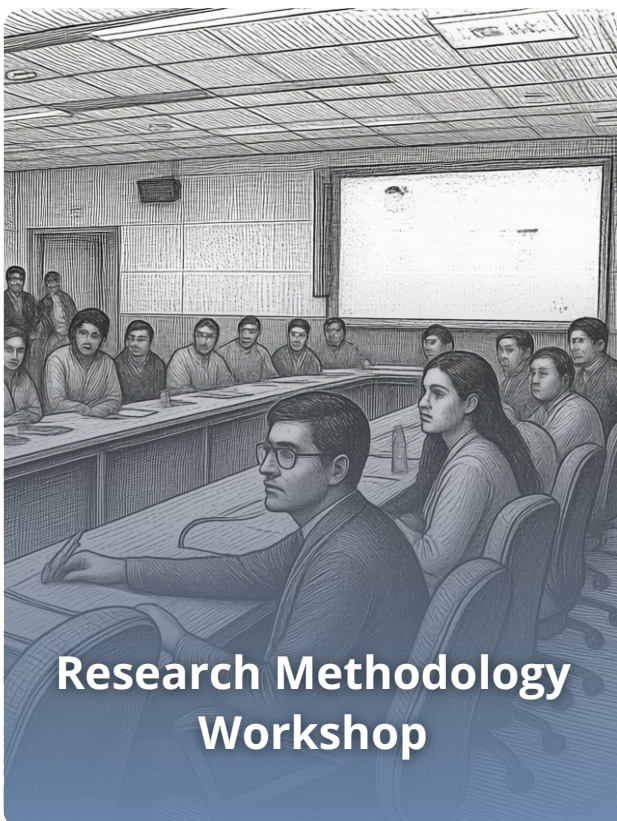
- **Navigating the Great Resurgence:** We stand at a "once in hundreds of lifetimes" opportunity to nurture the rebirth of the IKS ecosystem, transforming raw socio-political excitement into a sustainable and structured intellectual future.
- **Decolonizing the Intellectual Landscape:** By challenging the dominance of European political and scientific thought, we aim to re-center Bhāratīya experiences and the "Bhāratīya Self" as a primary lens for understanding both our history and our future.
- **The Discipline of "Unlearning":** A central mission of this gathering is the complex task of epistemic recovery - learning what was forgotten, unlearning distorted colonial legacies, and relearning traditional insights with contemporary relevance.
- **Architecting a Cultural Future:** Moving from the "forest" of ancient wisdom to the "manicured gardens" of modern science, we are here to strategize a global future for IKS where accessibility never compromises academic depth or rigor.

Conference Sub-Themes

- Darśana
- Nītiśāstra
- Arthaśāstra
- Dharmaśāstra
- Itihāsa and Purāṇa
- Jyotiṣa (Mathematics)
- Science and Engineering
- Society and Culture
- Arts
- Linguistics
- Vyākaraṇa
- Āyurveda (Medical Sciences)
- Architecture
- Buddhist Studies and Nathapanth

Conference Highlights

Engage in these transformative sessions and collaborative forums, thoughtfully distributed over three days.



Distinguished Speakers

Prof. Sthaneshwar Timalisina
*Endowed Chair of Indic Studies,
Stony Brook University*

Prof. Geshe Ngwang Samten
*Vice Chancellor,
Central University for Tibetan Studies*

Prof. C. S. Yogananda
*Professor (Retd),
SJCE, Mysuru*

Dr. Prakash Shah
*Reader in Culture and Law
Queen Mary University of London*

Prof. Sushil Mittal
*Professor of Religion
James Maddison University*

Prof. Vamsi Juluri
*Professor of Media Studies
University of San Francisco*

Prof. Rana Pratap Singh
*Vice Chancellor,
Gautam Buddha University*

Prof. Jyotirmaya Tripathy
*Professor, Indian Institute of
Technology, Madras*

Prof. P Rammanohar
*Director, Amrita School Of Ayurveda,
Amrita Vishwavidyapeetham*

Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan
*National Research Professor
AYUSH, Government of India*

Dr. Girishwar Misra
*Former Professor of Psychology,
University of Delhi*

Shri. Ramanand
*Director, Abhinavagupta Institute
of Advanced Studies*



Organising Team

Prof. Rana Pratap Singh

*Vice Chancellor,
Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida*

Prof. Madhav Govind

*Dean, School of Humanities and Social
Sciences, Gautam Buddha University*

Shri. Srikant Kumar

*National Convenor,
IKS & Heritage Association (IKSHA)*

Prof. M.S. Chaitra

*Founding Director,
Foundation for Study of Indian Culture
Associate Professor, TDU, Bengaluru*

Dr. Ashwini B Desai

*Senior Fellow,
Foundation for Study of Indian Culture
Assistant Professor, TDU, Bengaluru*



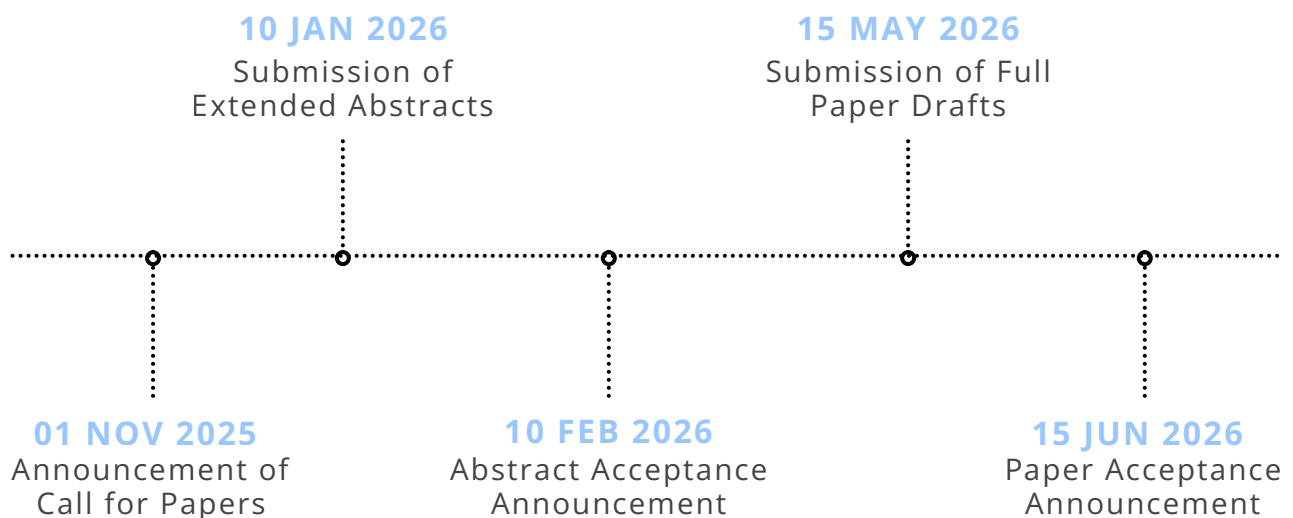
Paper Submission & Review Process

The Second Annual Academic Conference on Indian Knowledge Systems invited original and scholarly contributions. The selection was done through a two-stage submission process.

In the first stage, prospective authors were required to submit an extended abstract. Upon acceptance, they were invited to submit the draft of the full paper for final review.

All paper submissions underwent a single-blind peer review conducted by a panel of experts to ensure academic integrity and quality.

We received over 350 extended abstracts, of which around 250 were accepted.



Participant Registration



REGISTER NOW

<https://forms.gle/yBn9FcABokzUDQxMA>

Registration is mandatory for all participants, including both presenters and attendees. (Presenters are exempted from registration fees. They will get a separate link to register via email).

Limited seats available, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration fees are as follows:

Students: ₹1,500

Others: ₹2,500

Note: The registration fee is inclusive of meals, on-campus accommodation, and the official conference kit. This registration and payment are separate from the Pre-Conference Workshop.

Visit www.theiksha.org/conference



Research Methodology

Pre Conference Workshop

The workshop aims to support early-career scholars and researchers who are eager to explore IKS and refine their academic skills in this emerging field.

23 July 2026 | Gautam Buddha University



Instructors

Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan

National Research Professor - Ayush
Professor - School of Health Sciences, Savitribai
Phule Pune University

Prof. D. Venkat Rao

Dean,
Nalanda University

Prof. Ganti S. Murthy

Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Indore
National Coordinator, IKS Division,
Ministry of Education, Government of India

Prof. Hemanshu Pota

Professor,
University of New South Wales, Australia

Participants of the workshop will be provided with lunch and certificate of completion

Eligibility

- PhD/Post-Doctoral Students
- Assistant Professors

(Preference to candidates who are actively engaged in writing or are in the process of publishing their research)

Format and Focus

- Lecture sessions and discussions
- Key aspects of research methodology, effective research writing techniques, and practical guidance for publishing your work in IKS-related areas.

Registration Fee: ₹500

Note: The registration link is common for both the Conference and the Workshop. Please select the appropriate registration category while registering.

REGISTER NOW

<https://forms.gle/kc2AzUGRypAyuFqc8>





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