

# International Conference

on

## Beyond Horizons: Exploring the World in World Literature

March 7-8, 2024



Department of English Language and Literature  
(DELL)

Venue: E- Learning Centre  
Central University of Odisha  
Main Campus

Post- NAD Sunabeda, Dist- Koraput, Pin- 763004

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“In its most expansive sense, World literature could include any work that has ever reached beyond its home base”—David Damrosch

(*What is World Literature?*)

In this era of globalization when transnational and transcultural movements have become a common reality, the discourse of World Literature has emerged as a mirror, aptly reflecting the cross-cultural exchanges over time and space. Exquisite as a literary-cultural tapestry, World Literature weaves diverse narratives of humanity together with varied epistemological and aesthetic paradigms. It's a truism that the multifarious nature of World Literature opens up a cosmopolitan vision that paves the way towards understanding and accepting varied literary traditions across the world. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), while discoursing with his pupil Johann Peter Eckermann in 1827 introduced to him the concept of *Weltliteratur* saying: “National literature is now rather an unmeaning term; the epoch of world literature is at hand, and every one must strive to hasten its approach”. In a very similar vein, Rabindranath Tagore in his lecture entitled “World Literature” (9<sup>th</sup> February 1907) introduced the concept of *Vishwa sahitya* (translated as World literature) and declared: “It is time we pledged that our goal is to view universal humanity in universal literature by freeing ourselves from rustic uncatholicity; that we shall recognise a totality in each particular author's work, and that in this totality we shall perceive the interrelations among all human efforts at expression.” Undoubtedly, both Goethe's and Tagore's notions of *Weltliteratur* and *Vishwa sahitya* respectively reflect a global dimension. Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> and the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, there was a tendency to interpret World Literature as the canon of the world's classics or literary masterpieces. With the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, there are certain changes in the perception of World Literature, as newer ideas and theories attempt to validate the transformation of World Literature into literature of transcendence across time and space. This conference will attempt to trace that transformation in conjunction with the idea of the ‘World’ in World Literature.

It cannot be denied that World Literature has the potency to bridge gaps, to facilitate cross-cultural exchanges and to make space for stories and narratives of human experience. Moreover, World Literature also encourages us to move beyond the familiar boundaries and imaginaries, to expand our horizons and to transform our world view. This conference, aiming at traversing the linguistic, cultural, regional and national boundaries, seeks to explore the ‘World’ in World Literature.

This conference invites proposals which will focus on issues related to the idea and theories, premises and problems of World Literature. Potential papers can address to topics such as follows:

- The early history of *Weltliteratur* and the various translations of the term
- World Literature, cultural exchanges and the rise of Cultural Studies
- World History and World Literature
- The relationship of World Literature with Comparative Literature
- World Literature, the continental European literary traditions and Eurocentrism
- World Literature, the Asian literary and aesthetic traditions, and Classics
- Pedagogy and the American ways of dealing with World Literature
- World Literature and Translation Studies
- The Aesthetics of World literature
- The Relationship of Postcolonial Studies to World Literature
- World Literature and Commodification of the literary as cultural goods
- World Literature and Cosmopolitanism
- World Literature, National Literature, and Folk Literatures
- World Literature, Media and Indian Society
- World Literature and the Indian Knowledge Systems
- Stories as Cultural Histories in World Literature
- Travel narratives and World Literature
- World Literature and Marginalization
- Problems of totalitarianism in World Literature
- Environmental crisis and World Literature

### Key Note Speakers:

#### Day-1: (7 March 2024):

Prof. Bill Ashcroft (offline) FAHA  
Professor Emeritus  
School of the Arts and Media, UNSW  
Sydney 2052 Australia

#### Day-1: (7 March 2024):

Prof. David Damrosch (virtual mode)  
Ernest Bernbaum Professor of Comparative Literature  
Department of Comparative Literature  
Harvard University (USA)

#### Day-2: (8 March 2024):

Prof. Alan Johnson (offline)  
Professor of English and Philosophy  
Idaho State University (USA)

### Guidelines for Abstract Submission:

Interested participants are welcome to submit their abstracts of maximum 300 words to the following email id: [dell.cuo.con2024@gmail.com](mailto:dell.cuo.con2024@gmail.com) by 15 February 2024. Submitters will receive notification of acceptance on or before 20 February 2024. Abstracts should be sent as Word files (font style- Times New Roman, font size- 12). Each abstract should contain: the paper's title, the name of the author(s), affiliation and country of residence, email address, abstract (of max. 300 words), and a short bio-note (of max. 50 words).

### Registration for the Conference:

The Registration fee includes the following: Conference Kit, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Accommodation (during conference days, 7-8 March 2024)

### Registration fee for Faculties:

Rs. 1500/- (Indian participants)  
20 USD (For other countries)

### Registration fee for Research Scholars:

Rs. 750/- (Indian participants)  
10 USD (For other countries)

### Registration fee for Students:

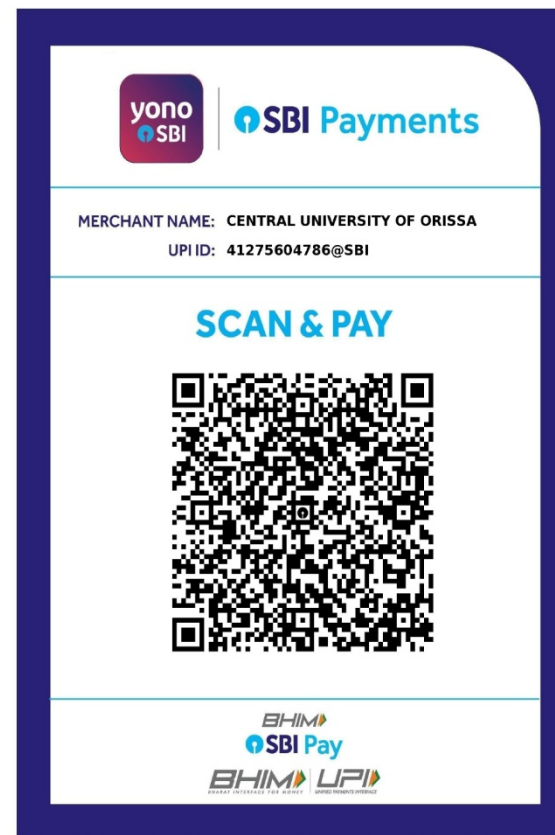
Rs. 250/- (Indian participants)  
3 USD (For other countries)

The payments should be made to the following UPI ID: **41275604786@SBI**

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### Link to the google form:

<https://forms.gle/mwp5TrdpgekLzLrf7>



### Patron of the Conference:

Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, Vice Chancellor,  
CUO, Koraput

### Dean, School of Languages:

Prof. N. C. Panda  
CUO, Koraput

### Convenor of the Conference:

Dr. Nirjharini Tripathy,  
HoD  
Department of English Language and Literature,  
CUO, Koraput

### Faculty members of the Department/ Organizing Committee:

Dr. Nirjharini Tripathy (Mob. 8144494339)  
Mr. Sanjeet Kumar Das (Mob. 8018444495)  
Dr. T. Anjaneyulu (Mob. 9441640379)  
Dr. Prasenjit Sinha (Mob. 9777599280)  
Dr. Nesha Sabar (Mob. 8280791153)

### Transport & Accommodation:

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