

International Centre For Cultural Studies

9th Triennial International Conference and
Elder's Gathering



Ancestral Wisdom in Contemporary Challenges



REVIVING TRADITIONS

ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE

ANCESTRAL WISDOM

29th January 2027 - 2nd February 2027

VENUE:-SARDAR VALLABHBHAI NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY, SURAT, GUJARAT ,INDIA

Culture • Wisdom • Future

ABOUT US

OUR HISTORY

ICCS WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1997 IN INDIA. ICCS USA INC WAS ESTABLISHED AS 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION IN THE YEAR 2002 IN THE USA. IN THE YEAR 2021, ICCS OBTAINED SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH UN.



OUR VISION

A WORLD WHERE COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND NATURE ARE SUSTAINED IN A MANNER THAT LEADS TO UNIVERSAL WELLBEING.



OUR MISSION

TO FACILITATE THE REVITALIZATION OF DIVERSE ANCIENT TRADITIONS AND CULTURES OF THE WORLD BY FOSTERING A FORUM FOR LEARNING, UNDERSTANDING, AND NETWORKING.



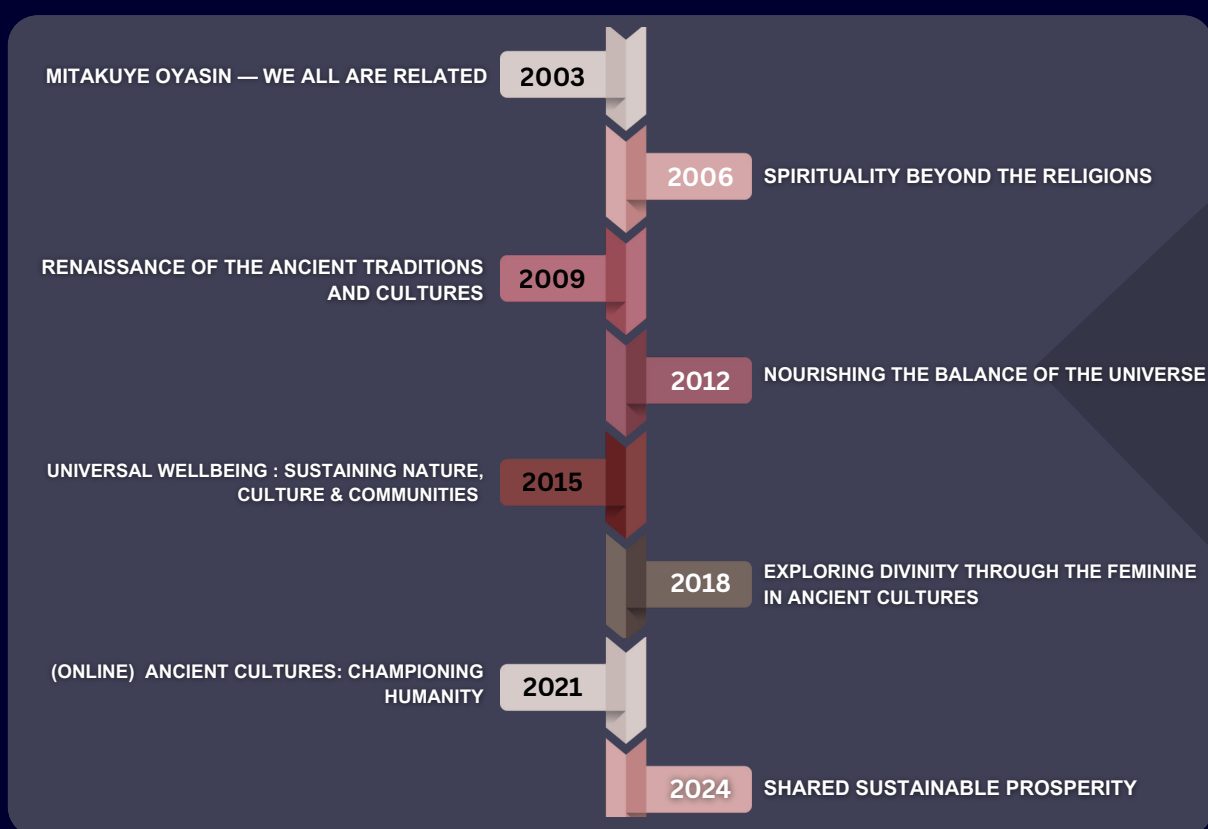
Bridging

COMMUNITIES & CULTURE



The International Centre for Cultural Studies (ICCS) successfully organised conferences previously. We have a great history of conferences where we invited elders, scholars and likeminded people across the globe to achieve our slogan- "MITAKUYE OYASIN" means we all are together. This Universal idea of oneness is the foundation of our work.

OUR PREVIOUS 8 TRIENNIAL GATHERINGS WERE AS FOLLOWS-



For the next conference in 2027, The International Centre for Cultural Studies (ICCS) invites you to join the global elders of ancient traditions to share insights on Earth's memory keepers, Ancient Knowledge Systems and the intergenerational Ethics of Coexistence.

Human civilizations have long drawn wisdom from the natural world, where elders serve as custodians of ecological memory. Ancient knowledge systems rooted in observations of flora, fauna, seasons, and cosmic rhythms offer timeless insights into sustainable living. Today, as environmental degradation accelerates, these knowledge traditions provide a moral and cultural framework for coexistence with nature.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE



This conference aims to bring together elders, scholars, practitioners, and students to rediscover how community traditions, sacred landscapes, healing practices, and nature-centered philosophies can guide responsible stewardship. By fostering intergenerational dialogue, the event highlights the urgency of protecting biodiversity, revitalizing cultural heritage, and inspiring young generations to uphold ethical relationships with all forms of life. The conference invites interdisciplinary reflections on reconnecting human societies with Earth's living systems to ensure a resilient and harmonious future.

We are inviting all the scholars, enthusiasts and likeminded people to join hands together. We all are united and this is an opportunity to experience and explore this togetherness in a true sense.

Join us and participate with your own ideas, thoughts, experiences and research!



CALL FOR PAPERS



Theme: Ancestral Wisdom in Contemporary Challenges

Last date for submission of abstract: 31st May 2026

Last date for submission of Full paper: 31st August 2026

Registration opens: 1st September 2026

Expected delegates: Elders, Academicians, and Youth from ancient cultures of the world.

Focus will be on -

- a) Spiritual & Philosophical base of the traditions (need of Research & Documentation)**
- b) Need and role of Organization**
- c) Participation of Youth**

Important info :

All the participants can avail the facility to visit Statue of Unity and rural life of Indigenous people.

They also can visit RIWATCH an institute of ancient tradition based in Arunachal Pradesh, India.

All the participants are requested to mention their willingness towards these two tours organised by ICCS, Bharat.



PATRON & CONVENORS



**Prof. Yashwant Pathak,
Patron**



**Dr. Shashibala,
President ICCS, Bharat**



**Prof. Amarjiva Lochan,
Convenor**



**Digant Das,
Convenor**



**Dr. Sumit Jindal,
Convenor**



**Pravin Veldanda,
Convenor**

Contact Info:

Dr Saupitic Mukherjee
+918076468391

Manvi Singh
+919300260360

Rajat Singh
+917084614658

Email ID:
iccsbhart22@gmail.com

Email ID:
conference@iccsglobal.org



SUB-THEME



Ancestral Wisdom and Knowledge Systems

- Elders as custodians of ecological memory and intergenerational learning.
- Storytelling, oral traditions, and ancestral memory as epistemic and pedagogical tools.
- Rituals, sacred landscapes, and cosmologies as ecological knowledge systems.
- Holistic health and healing traditions, including indigenous medicinal and nutritional systems.
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge: biodiversity, ethnobotany, and animal behaviour.
- Arts, Crafts, and Performance: Carrying Cultural and Ecological Identity

Intergenerational Learning and Education

- Learning From Elders: Passing Down Knowledge.
- Integrating traditional and ecological knowledge into curriculum and teacher training.
- Nature-based and experiential education models.
- Roles of schools, universities, and communities in conserving cultural-ecological heritage.
- Indigenous research methodologies.

Community Leadership and Ecological Governance

- Community-led conservation practices and Indigenous leadership models.
- Ethics of reciprocity, mutual care, and collective responsibility.
- Gender roles and inclusive stewardship in Traditional Knowledge frameworks.
- Indigenous frameworks of resource ethics, governance, and environmental law.
- Food, seed, and soil sovereignty; sustainable livelihoods rooted in local crafts and natural resources.
- Eco-enterprises, circular economies, and sustainable tourism as contemporary expressions of traditional ethics.



SUB-THEME



Technology, Innovation, and Digital Futures

- Ancient innovations in water systems, architecture, and sustainable materials.
- Bio-inspired technologies (biomimicry) and renewable energy are rooted in traditional sciences.
- Ancestral knowledge and Artificial Intelligence (AI): toward Indigenous data sovereignty.
- AI and GIS mapping of sacred landscapes and ecological systems.
- Digital archiving and storytelling for cultural continuity and revitalisation.
- Virtual ceremonies and sacred connections in digital spaces.



Spiritual-ethical philosophies, critique of modernity, and epistemic sovereignty in ancient traditions

- Ancient Conception of self, cosmos, and nature as foundations of ethical life
- Dharma, ahimsa, Rit and parallel indigenous ethical frameworks as alternatives to modernity
- Comparison of Indian epistemology with non-Western Cultures and traditions across the globe.
- The Good Life in Ancient Thought: Enough, Simple, Balanced
- Western Materialism, Industrial Hegemony, and the Erosion of Indigenous Cultures
- Colonialism: Destruction, Loss and Resilience of Indigenous Tradition
- Jurisprudence & Conception of Justice in Ancient Traditions.
- Current Crisis & Solution through ancient thought of existence.





ORGANISED BY
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR CULTURAL STUDIES
AND
SARDAR VALLABHBHAI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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If you have any questions regarding
the program, please feel free to
contact:



Phone Number

Dr Sauptric Mukherjee
+918076468391



Email ID

iccsbharat22@gmail.com
conference@iccsglobal.org

Rajat Singh
+917084614658

Manvi Singh
+919300260360



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