



Newsletter



GANGADHAR MEHER UNIVERSITY
Amruta Vihar, Sambalpur





From the Vice-Chancellor's Desk:

Gangadhar Meher University, named after a famous poet of the region, has evolved into a leading institution of higher education in western Odisha. With nascent beginning as a University in 2015, with UGC recognition as 'A' level accredited institution, it also has secured creditable rank in Times Higher Education Rating. The research profiles of the faculty members have found a secure footing in international research databases including PUBLONS, Research Gate, Web of Science, Scopus Index and Academia etc. The university has also achieved a distinction in the academic year of 2021 by bagging maximum SEED Research Project offered by the Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha.



The University has set itself on a fast track by rapidly transforming its physical and technological infrastructure. The HRMS system is on the anvil with an intention of effecting complete automation of official processes is ongoing. It has twenty-four regular and nine self-finance departments spread over thirteen acres of carpet area. A newly constructed auditorium, a sprawling new campus of over fifty acres, a refurbished playground, and a new administrative building, renovations of Professors quarters, construction of new quarter for Vice Chancellor and Registrar, construction of new building at Basantpur campus add to the infrastructural splendours of G.M. University.

With the introduction of new courses, the university is able to establish new linkages with other universities through MoUs and other initiatives. The Bhima Bhoi Chair established by the University in the year 2019 is the only research chair in Odisha. The 'World Bank'-funded Centre for Advanced Studies in Gerontology and Geriatrics is working towards solving issues related to the Old age population. GM University has started reaching out to one of its important stake holders through its distinguished alumni in a better way through their involvement at multiple levels such as mentoring students, generating corpus funds, career counselling, supporting new and innovative programs and having annual alumni meets.

Like the swift-flowing River Mahanadi, the University and its authority are moving fast in a planned manner towards creation of an ecosystem in teaching and learning and achieve excellence in the field of higher education. The university witnessed the 3rd Convocation Ceremony on 12th April, 2023. Hon'ble Chancellor, Prof. Ganeshi Lal graced the occasion and enlightened the students, academicians, and other dignitaries with his captivating oratory.





The UGC Chairman addressing the delegates of the NCST workshop



NCST Chairman addressing the delegates of the NCST workshop

The Vice-Chancellor and two faculty members attended two-day workshop on 27-28th November 2022 conducted by National Commission

for Scheduled Tribes at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. The delegates later attended an interactive session with Her Excellency Madam President at

Rashtrapati Bhavan. It was the culmination of a series of regional level workshops at various HEIs including G M University.



Hon'ble Minister Higher Education releasing the souvenir on the occasion of the 25th National conference of Rock Art Society



Hon'ble Minister with Dr. Narayani Panda



Hon'ble Minister on the occasion of inauguration of Administrative Building

Bhima Bhoi Research Chair:

Ever since its inception, the Bhima Bhoi Research Chair has been actively engaged in liter-

ary/cultural research on the Santha Kabi Bhima Bhoi. Over the years, the centre has coordinated a number of seminars, special lectures and workshops

for the promotion of academic research on the poet. It frequently publishes edited volumes of Bhoi's poems, as well as research articles/books.



Invocation by Mahima Sadhus on the occasion of Bhima Bhoi Jayanti and Memorial Talk on 17th April, 2022



Bhima Bhoi Lecture Series-VI on "ଭୀମଭୋଇ ସାହିତ୍ୟରେ ଜନବାଦୀ ଚେତନା ଓ ତାର ସାମ୍ପ୍ରତିକତା" delivered by Dr. Basudev Sunani and Sri. Saroj Kumar Mohanty on 4th November, 2022

- Organized a National Seminar in collaboration with Bhima Bhoi Chair, KISS University and Odisha Sahitya Academy on 22nd July, 2022



Special Lecture

First Annual Lecture in Honour of Himadri Lahiri, University of Burdwan by the School of English. Prof. Prafulla Pati delivered by Prof. on 19th September 2022, organized



Special Lecture on Bhakti Poetry by Prof. H.S. Shivaprakash, School of Arts and Aesthetics, JNU, 14th July, 2022, organized by the School of English.

- Prof. Srimat Sahu Memorial Lecture by Prof. Rajeswari Sunder Rajan, Scaffnet Visiting Professor, University of Chicago, 22nd February, 2022, organized by School of English.

Workshops



National Translation Workshop on Bhakti Poetry in collaboration with Odisha Sahitya Academy and Karnataka Sahitya Academy from 12th to 15th July, 2022



Faculty Development Programme on “Designing, Developing and Delivering MOOCs” organised by School of Education from 19th August to 18th September 2022



Three-day National workshop on ‘Introduction to Prehistoric Archaeology’ for Graduate and Post Graduate students from 29th to 31st October 2022, organized by the School of History in collaboration with the School of Anthropology.



Lecture workshop on “Frontiers in Materials Sciences” from 9th to 10th October 2022, organised by School of Chemistry in collaboration with National Academy of Science

School of Philosophy: -

- “Contemporary Relevance of Gandhi’s Concept of Swaraj” by former Prof. R. C. Majhi, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, 8th August 2022.
- “Introducing the Epistemological and Ontological Dimension of Phenomenology” by Prof. Bhagat

Oinam, JNU, New Delhi, 26th September 2022.

School of Philosophy: -

- “Different Dimensions of Dāna”, by Prof. B.K. Swain, on 17th October 2022.
- “Concept of Dāna in Indian Culture”, by Prof. K.E. Dharaneedharan, 25th October 2022.

Webinars:

- “Technical Terms in Panini’s Astadhyayee”, by Upendra Prasad Lenka, 3rd November 2022.
- “Relevance of dana in Bharatiya Social and Political Order”, by Sri. Nithin Ramakrishnan, 24th November 2022.
- “Economic perspective of Dāna”, by Prof. P.V. Viswanath, 5th December 2022.
- “विश्वकल्याणकारिणी वैदिकजीवनपद्धति: from 13th January 2022 to 15th January 2022.
- “समुद्रशतकस्य समीक्षात्मकमध्ययनम्” from 31st May 2022 to 01st June 2022.
- “अष्टाध्यायः समानानाम् अजादिसूत्राणां समीक्षात्मकमध्ययनम्”, 04th December 2022.
- “Theory of Dana in Vyasa Smriti” from 23rd December 2022 to 25th



December 2022.

- “Manusmriti: A Dharmashastra Discourse of Society”, 04th December 2022.
- “Universal Brotherhood in Yama”, 04th December 2022.
- “प्राचीनयुगे पञ्चकित्साव्यवस्था”, 4th December 2022.
- “साम्प्रतिकयुगे पाणिनीयव्याकरणस्य उपयोगिता”, 21st February 2023.

School of Political Science: -

- “Understanding Ambedkar” by Prof. Raj Kumar, 14th April 2022.
- “Cultural Labour: Its Power, Potential and Pitfalls” by Dr. Brahma Prakash, School of Theatre and Performance Studies, JNU, New Delhi, 19th May 2022.
- “Rethinking Security” by Prof. Narottam Gaan, Former HOD, Department of Political Science, Amarkantak Central University, 26th May 2022.
- “Gandhian Thought Today: Issues and Challenges” by Ramachandra Pradhan, Social Activist Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Delhi University Dr. Ritika Gaur, Assistant Professor, Department of Political

Science, Delhi University, 21st October 2022.

- “Librarianship in the Digital Era: Development & Challenges” by Dr. Rabindra Kumar Mahapatra, Associate Professor & Head Department

School of Library and Information Science:-

- of Library & Information Science, Tripura University, 12th August 2021.
- “Employment in LIS: Status and Competencies” by Dr. Akhandanand Shukla, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Library & Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu, 9th July 2021.
- “Understanding open Educational Resource (OER) and Creative Common Licence” by Dr. Shriram Pandey, Associate Professor, Department of Library & Information Science, 28th September 2022.

School of Anthropology: -

- “The Path of Anthropology: A Discourse from Evolutionism to Post-modernism” by Prof. Jagannath Dash Former Professor & HoD, Department of Anthropology, Utkal

School of Psychology: -

- University, 20th January 2022.
- “Wellbeing- The Mantra for National Health” by Prof. Meena Hariharan, Centre for Health Psychology, University of Hyderabad, 10th October 2022.

School of Commerce: -

- “Research and Publication Ethics.. No, Yes, and I DON'T KNOW” by Prof. Atanu Kumar Pati, Executive Member, Odisha State Higher Education Council, 05th November 2022.

School of English: -

- “Critical Interdisciplinarity in the Humanities” by Prof. Dilip Kumar Das, Department of Cultural Studies, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad. 5th July 2022.

School of History: -

- “Women's History: Problem and Perspectives” by Prof. Rekha Pande, Department of History and Centre for Women's Studies, University of Hyderabad, 22nd September 2022.

Odisha Centre for Geriatrics and Gerontology (OCGG)

Odisha Centre for Geriatrics and Gerontology (OCGG) is the first-ever centre in the field of gerontology and geriatrics in Odisha. The prime objective of this centre is to address various issues related to the elderly population such as health problems, status of sarcopenia, economic and social security, psychological issues like anxiety, depression, dementia, sleep quality,

etc. In the contemporary social situation, the number of these people is growing up significantly. Ipso facto creates an imbalance in normal social life. Multidisciplinary research on the elderly population was initiated by the centre with the involvement of various departments having implications for studies on geriatrics and gerontology. An advisory committee was formed with outstanding academics from different corners of the country who have been working in the field of Geriatrics and Gerontology. One dedicated page was

created and published on the website to disseminate knowledge on different dimensions of the growing issues of Geriatrics and Gerontology. A comprehensive questionnaire with more than 130 questions has been prepared including all the dimensions of issues related to the elderly population. Field studies are going on. It is quite encouraging that till date around 3000 samples were collected from 75 villages of rural areas of Sambalpur district with proper stratification. The data collection has been extended to ur-

ban areas of Sambalpur and other districts of Western Odisha. Research papers have been communicated for publication in Scopus-indexed journals. To take care of the medical/biological dimensions of geriatrics, the CoE has involved the biggest medical college in western Odisha, VIMSAR, Burla, Sambalpur through an MOU. The Centre has also signed an MOU with the Centre for Translational Chronobiology, and the Centre for Geriat-

rics and Gerontology of Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, Chhattisgarh. One Certificate course on Geriatrics Care has been launched to leverage the academic extension dimension of geriatrics. The center is actively working on outreach activities to connect with elderly persons at the ground level. Several such activities have been organized in association with the old age home of Sambalpur and nearby places. Many workshops

and conferences have been organized involving experts from outside Odisha to give a proper shape to the CoE vis-à-vis specified goals. The immediate mandate of the centre is to undertake interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research on old-age problems in Odisha. Efforts are on to develop a policy document so that necessary contributions may be made to the policy design at the level of the Government.



Webpage: <https://www.gmuniversity.ac.in/odisha-center-for-geriatrics-and-gerontology-ocgg-.php>

“Respect old people: who have walked the path before you”

National Seminars and Conferences:

A National Seminar on “Understanding Climate Change in India: Issues and Challenges” was organized by the School of Political Science on 3rd December 2022. Eminent speakers and dignitaries

including Prof. Prakash Chandra Sarangi, former Vice Chancellor, Ravenshaw University, Prof. Rabindra Ku. Satapathy, NEHU, Shillong, Prof.



Manoranjan Mishra, F.M. University, Balasore, Dr. Asis Ku. Senapati, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack and Dr. Sikata Panda, Principal, NSCB col-

lege, Sambalpur etc. participated in the deliberations. Prof. N. Nagaraju, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, G. M. University presided over the meeting.

A National Seminar on “Debating National Security in India: A Human Security Perspective” was organized by the School of Political Science, Gangadhar Meher University, in collaboration with ICSSR from 23rd to 24th December, 2022. Professor Aswini Mohapatra, JNU, delivered the keynote address and Prof. Aditya Padhi, former Vice-Chancellor, Ber-



hampur University, was the Guest of Honour. A total number of 70 papers were presented. Many eminent speakers from different parts of India, including Professors from

Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi University, Hyderabad, Jamia Millia Islamia University New Delhi etc. participated and enriched the scholarly dialogue.



A National seminar on “Geographical Approaches for Sustainable Society and Environment” was organized by the School of Geography on 11th December, 2022. The Seminar was inaugurated by Chief

Guest Dr. Md. Izhar Hassan, Retd. Professor of Geography from M.D. University, Rohtak, Haryana, Dr. Arun Kumar Acharya, Professor of Anthropology, Sambalpur University was the Guest of Honour. Prof.

N. Nagaraju Vice Chancellor of G.M. University presided over the inaugural function. Four keynote speakers, Dr. R.S. Chatterjee, Scientist-G IIRS, ISRO, Dehradun, Dr. Sourav Sil, Associate Professor, IIT Bhubaneswar, Dr. M.V. Ravibabu, Associate Professor, National Institute Rural Development & Panchayatiraj, Hyderabad, Dr. C Prakasham, Associate professor Assam University, Silchar (Diphu Campus), participated in the insightful discussion.

The 25th National Conference of Rock Art Society of India on “Pre-historic Rock Art of Western Odisha and their developments as Sustainable Eco-Heritage Destinations: Issues and Perspectives” was organised in collaboration with the School of History from 14th to 16th October, 2022. The seminar was sponsored



by Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi. The seminar was inaugurated by the Honourable Minister of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha Shri Rohit Pujari. Sri Kalyan Kumar Chakravarty, Rtd. IAS &

Director General, National Museum, Govt. of India, delivered the keynote address. Other eminent speakers include Prof. A. B. Ota, Prof. K. K. Basa and Prof. Byomkesh Tripathy.

- National Seminar on “Gender, society and development: The contemporary issue” on 19th Dec 2022 by School of Sociology.
- National Seminar on “Philosophy: Concepts, Issues and Challenges” on 17th December 2022 by School of Philosophy.
- 54th Annual Conference of the Odisha Economic Association on “Covid-19, Indian Economy & Economic Recovery and Innovation Systems and Inclusive Development” from 12th - 13th February, 2022, by the School of Economics.
- National Seminar on “Youth Welfare and Social Welfare” on 13th November 2022 in collaboration with PATANG (N.G.O), by School of Psychology.



National Seminar on “Tulanatmaka Sahityara Prasangikata” on 13th October 2022, School of Odia.



National Seminar on “Odia Sahitya re Dalita Chetana” on 8th December 2022, School of Odia.



Regional Seminar on “Contribution of Tribal Communities and Tribal Leaders to Indian Freedom Struggle” on 26th August 2022



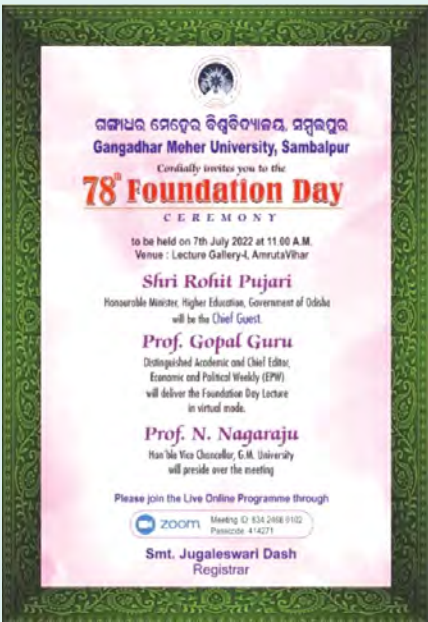
Republic Day



International Women’s Day, 8th March, 2022



National Mother-Tongue Day, 21st February



University Foundation Day, 7th July 2022



Sambalpuri Day, 1st August, 2022



Independence Day cultural function, Azaadi ka Amrutmahotsav, 2022



Sanskrit Divas, 19th August 2022



Gangadhar Meher Jayanti, 12th August, 2022



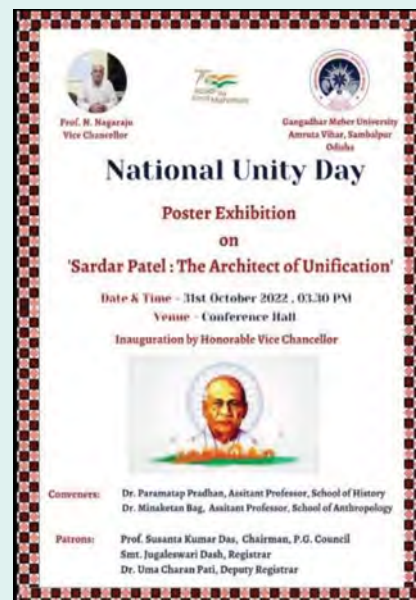
Hindi Pakhwara tatha rashtrakavi Ramdhari Singh Dinkar Jayanti, 23rd September 2022, organized by School of Hindi



Gandhi Jayanti, 2nd October, 2022



Vigilance Awareness Week-2022, 31st October 2022



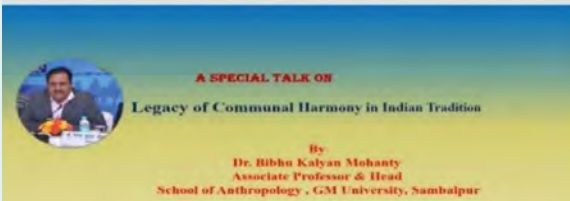
National Unity Day, 31st October 2022



Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, from 7th to 10th November 2022



World Heritage Week, 20th November 2022, organised by School of History



National Foundation for Communal Harmony, HELP CHILDREN delivered by Dr. Bibhu Kalyan Mohanty, Associate Professor on 25th November 2022



National Mathematics Day, 22nd December,

- School of Psychology observed “The World Suicide Prevention Week” from 6th September-10th September, 2022
- School of Psychology celebrated the International Day for Disabled on 03/12/2022

Co-curricular Activities Literary & Cultural Events/ Sports:

As part of its mission to enable the holistic development of young students, GMU encourages students to participate in cultural events and sports activities. The actively functioning Literary and Cultural Committee of the university regularly organizes Debate, Essay-writing, Poetry recitation, Painting and Drawing, Drama, Classical/Folk/Contemporary Dance, Classical

Vocal/Instrumental Music and Mono-action competitions to groom students into sensible citizens who appreciate the rich cultural legacy of the state and nation. Practice sessions involving faculty, non-teaching staff and students envision a vibrant campus. The university has



The classical dance team of GMU

also engaged two full-time Physical Education Officers for the training of

students in athletic/sports activities. Regular activities like Cricket, Foot-

ball, Basketball, Kabaddi, Kho-kho, Chess, Carrom, among others.



Painting Competition



Literary & cultural contingent, GMU with Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor



Classical dance competition



Folk dance competition, organised by Literary & Cultural Committee



Dance offering to the nation on the occasion of Azadi ka Amrutmahotsav, 2022



Rangoli competition organized by Literary & Cultural Committee



Song competition organized by Literary & Cultural Committee



Painting Competition on the occasion of Azaadi ka Amrut Mahotsav, 2022



Students of GMU receiving prizes at the district level competition on the occasion of the Vigilance Awareness Week, 2022



Ms. Sanskruti Pujari receiving the Second Prize for English Debate at OIUC-2022 from the Hon'ble Governor, His Excellency Ganeshi Lal ji



Inter College Games & Sports



East Zone Inter University Kabaddi (Women) Tournament 2021-22



GMU Literary and Cultural contingent representation at Odisha Inter-University Competitions, 2022 held at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar



Selection trail for east zone inter university cricket tournament at VSS stadium, Sambalpur



6th Annual Athletic Meet 2021-22 at Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur



With the permission of Archaeological Survey of India the School of History, Gangadhar Meher University initiated the excavation work at Asurgarh in 2021-22. This site is located in Bara-

pali area, and is a very promising site and is located about two kms west from Barpali Tehsil headquarters in Bargarh district, and encircled by two moats and two forts, hence can be

called double moated and double fortified mud fort. The outer fortification wall served both as defence and for water harvesting purpose. The operation started at the core area of the site.



Sieving method by the students, Barpali Asurgarh, Dist. Bargarh



A street play on the theme "Sensitization on financial fraud" organized by School of Anthropology in December 2022 at Bhutapara, Sambalpur



Interaction meeting of School of Psychology with PATANG on Life Skill Development on 19th November 2022



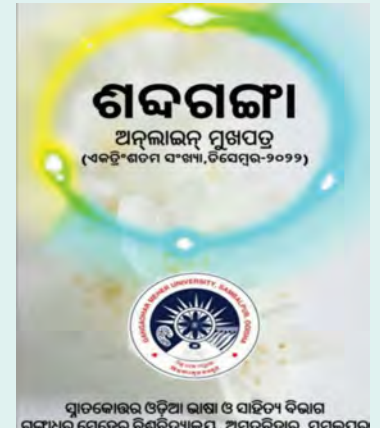
Interaction meeting of School of Psychology with PATANG on Life Skill Development on 19th November 2022



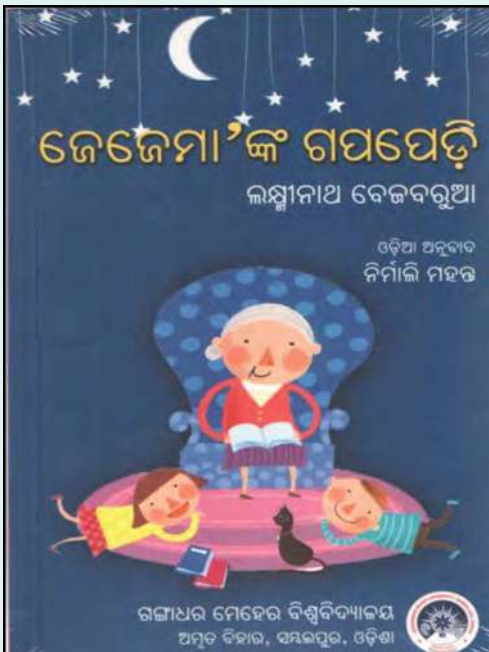
School of Psychology representing at the Indigenous Seeds and Food Festival organised by PATANG on 10th January 2023 at Jujumura

- School of Psychology organised a National Health sensitization programme in collaboration with the Government Headquarter Hospital, Sambalpur on 23rd September 2022
- School of Psychology organised a sensitization programme on "Learn with Fun" at village Hatipara, Jharsuguda District on 19th December 2022

Publications, G.M. University:



Publications, G.M. University:



Alumni Connect @ G.M. University:

The university believes in fostering a vibrant culture of involvement of the alumni in its overall functioning and day-to-day activities. The Alumni Cell of the university, in coordination with the Mo-College Abhiyan, an initiative of the Govern-

ment of Odisha, has developed a strong network of registered alumni members across the country. The university has been a proud alumnater of some of the most eminent persons recognized worldwide for their contribution in diverse fields.



MoU with VIMSAR, Burla



MoU with Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur



MoU with Sambalpuri Bastralaya, Bargarh

ଗଙ୍ଗାଧର ମେହେର ବିଶ୍ୱବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟରେ ଶେରା ବିଦିବ

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ଜିଏମୟୁରେ ଆଜ୍ଞାତାର ଯୋଗ ଦିବସ

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ଜାତୀୟଶିକ୍ଷାନୀତି: 'ସଫଳ ରୂପାୟନରେ ସ୍ଥିତି ବାଧକ'

ଜିଏମୟୁରେ ପୁରାତନ ଛାତ୍ର ନାମରେ ବୃତ୍ତି

ଜିଏମୟୁରେ ବିଶ୍ୱ ପରିବେଶ ଦିବସ

ଜିଏମୟୁରେ ଏନ୍ଏସ୍ଏସ୍ ଦିବସ

Editorial Board:

Dr. Bibhu Kalyan Mohanty, Associate Professor, School of Anthropology (Editor-in-Chief)

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