INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Estd. 1951

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Deemed to be University U/S 3 of the UGC Act, 1956

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES

KISS

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

PURPOSE TO PEARL

1997 - 2027

51st

ALL INDIA SOCIOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

HOSTED BY

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES
KIIT DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY
BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA

On

CULTURE, REGION AND PEDAGOGY:

Exploring the Future of Indian Sociology

27-29 December 2026

Scan Me

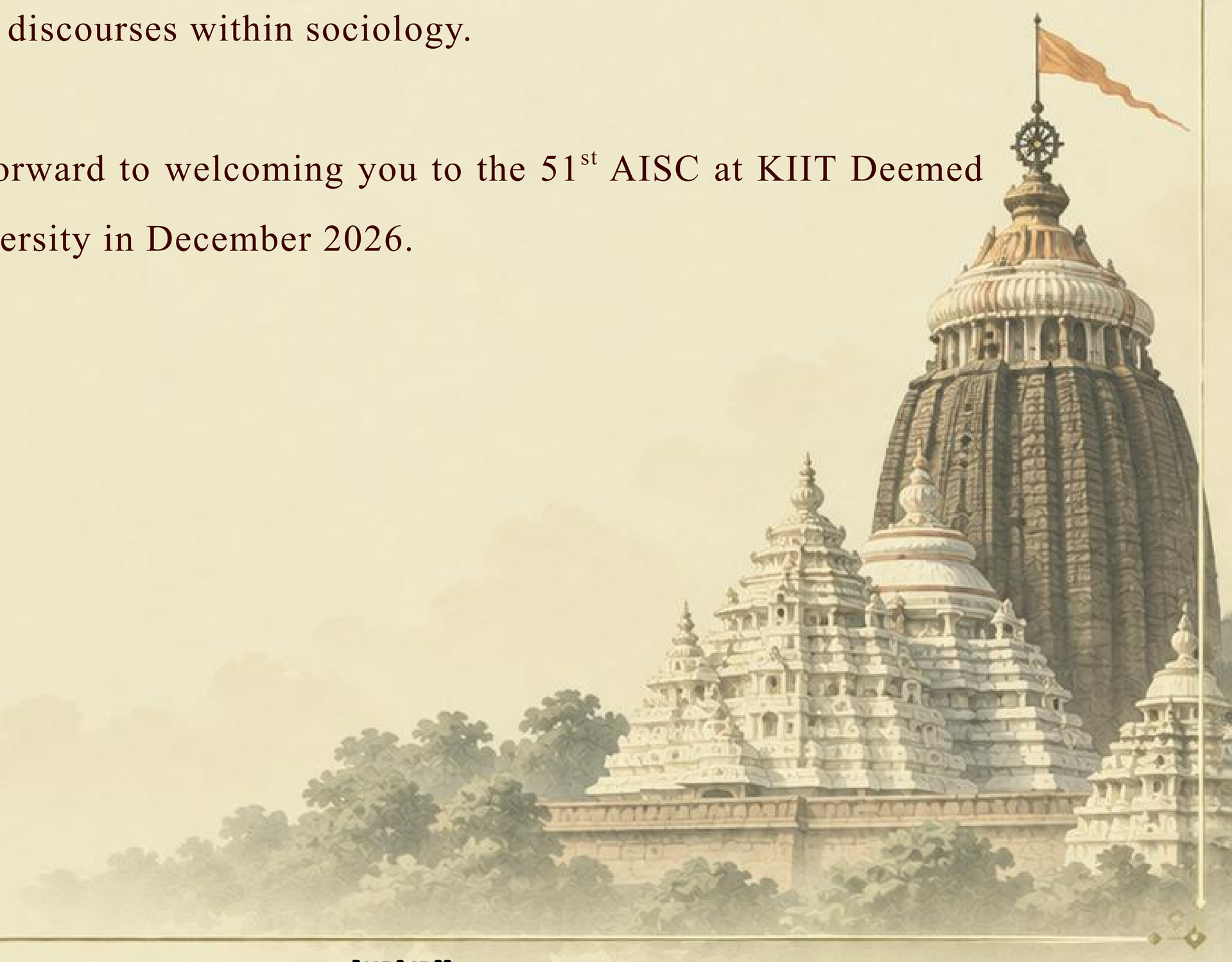
Know more about the
Conference and Registration Details

INVITATION

It gives us immense pleasure to invite you to the **51st All India Sociological Conference (51st AISC)** of the Indian Sociological Society (ISS). The conference will be hosted by the Department of Sociology, School of Liberal Studies, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha from **27 to 29 December 2026**.

The theme of the conference is **Culture Region and Pedagogy: Exploring the Future of Indian Sociology**. The conference will be attended by national and international delegates, including renowned sociologists, professors, researchers, and students. The collective expertise of the scholars would help the participants to engage and extend the discourses within sociology.

We look forward to welcoming you to the 51st AISC at KIIT Deemed to be University in December 2026.



CONFERENCE THEME

CULTURE, REGION AND PEDAGOGY: EXPLORING THE FUTURE OF INDIAN SOCIOLOGY

We are living through a period of rapid and significant social transformation. Across the globe, rise of new forms of populist politics and mobilisation, the growing demand for specialized professional skills, and the rise of digital platform economies have collectively reconfigured the fabric of everyday social reality.

In their influential work, On Decoloniality (2018), Walter D. Mignolo and Catherine E. Walsh observe that we are witnessing a "pluriversality of social problems." In simple terms, this means that complex socio-human challenges can no longer be conceptualized through a single, universal model. Rather, localized crises whether a regional ecological change, local caste resentments or neighbourhood level housing struggles are conditioned by their own unique specific historical and social contexts while remaining deeply tied to worldwide economic and political shifts. The world is not a uniform whole; it is a "pluriverse" made up of many interconnected worlds, each requiring empirically grounded sociological analysis.

Looking back at the historical record of the All-India Sociological Conferences (AISC) over the past five decades reveals how Indian sociology has continuously adapted to explain these changing realities.

All India Sociological Conferences in India over the Years

The intellectual trajectory of the All-India Sociological Conference (AISC) reflects the changing social realities and scholarly concerns of post-independence India. The First All India Sociological Conference, held in Dehradun in 1955 with the theme "Social Change," marked an early effort to examine the structural and institutional dimensions of Indian society. During the initial decades, sociological scholarship largely focused on social stratification, caste, class, modernization, social institutions, and the processes associated with nation-building and democratic consolidation. From the late 20th century onwards, the scope of sociological inquiry expanded to include social movements, agrarian relations, inequality, resistance, and emerging forms of identity-based mobilization. Conferences held in Chandigarh (1976), Surat (1984), and Mangalore (1993) reflected growing scholarly engagement with the experiences of marginalized communities and changing patterns of collective action.

In the twenty-first century, the AISC increasingly addressed the implications of globalization, civil society, technological change, and new forms of social exclusion. Conferences held in Kanpur (2002), Lucknow (2017), and Amaravati (2025) demonstrate the continued expansion of sociological inquiry in response to emerging social transformations. Thus, the intellectual development of the AISC illustrates the evolving relationship between sociological scholarship and the changing social, economic, political, and cultural conditions of Indian society.

Decolonizing Theory and Reclaiming Indigenous Realities

The 51st All India Sociological Conference (2026) builds directly upon this intellectual heritage. It explores how local cultural expressions, regional specificities, and classroom teaching practices can shape the future of Indian sociology in an interconnected yet fragmented world.

At the heart of these gathering lays an urgent need to engage with what has been described as an epistemic crisis: a challenge to established ways of defining truth, validating evidence, and determining whose knowledge is recognized as legitimate. For much of its institutional history, sociology in universities across the world has been strongly influenced by the works of Western theorists such as Marx, Weber, and Durkheim, assuming their findings about European industrial societies applied universally across the globe.

Scholars such as Raewyn Connell, particularly through her formulation of "Southern Theory," and Syed Farid Alatas have critically examined this epistemic imbalance and advocated the decolonization of sociological knowledge. Their work calls for greater recognition of "Theory from the South". Decolonizing sociology does not mean abandoning Western thought entirely; rather, it means dethroning it as the sole voice of authority, questioning its privileged position as the primary source of theoretical authority. It involves expanding the foundations of sociological knowledge by drawing upon the lived experiences, histories, and intellectual traditions of societies across Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Within India, the debate over the relationship between indigenous social realities and wider sociological frameworks has a long intellectual history. In Sociology of Indian Culture, D. P. Mukerji argued for a sociology grounded in India's historical, cultural, and distinctive cultural rhythms rather than one that simply reproduces European conceptual models. M. N. Srinivas further strengthened the empirical orientation of Indian sociology by shifting the discipline away from the "Book View"—the historical practice of analysing Indian society solely through ancient Sanskrit texts—in favour of the empirical "Field View."

By immersing themselves in real villages through participant observation, sociologists could document social life as it was actually lived. Béteille demonstrated that Indian inequality cannot be reduced to caste alone. Power, economic class, and social status interact along multiple, often conflicting lines, making Indian society far more layered than classical theories suggested. Long before mainstream sociology fully recognized it, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar offered an indispensable critique of institutional power. Ambedkar showed that sociology must not merely observe social structures passively, but expose and challenge the lived cruelties of caste oppression.

Contemporary Challenges: Pedagogy, Ecology, and Public Science

The emphasis on grounding sociological inquiry in local social realities faces several contemporary challenges, including those associated with changing approaches to higher education under India's National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The policy envisages multidisciplinary education, greater engagement with Indian and regional languages, and increased emphasis on skills and experiential learning. These developments raise important questions for sociology concerning disciplinary autonomy, critical pedagogy, employability and the relationship between theoretical and applied knowledge.

Sociologists are now asked to deliver actionable solutions for three immediate social crises:

(a) Climate Change and Ecological Justice: Understanding how environmental degradation disproportionately impacts resource-dependent rural and tribal populations.
(b) Precarity and Informality: Addressing the chronic economic and emotional insecurity experienced by workers trapped in unstable, low-paying gig work and examining the everyday survival strategies of city dwellers in unauthorized colonies or informal settlements where basic infrastructure is scarce.
(c) Algorithmic Governance: Analysing how automated technologies, data tracking, and algorithmic decision-making influence welfare distribution and civil liberties.

In this context, pioneering sociologist Radha Kamal Mukerjee of the Lucknow School of argued passionately that sociology must study the intimate links between regional geography, culture, values and social ecology (the relationship between human communities and their natural surroundings) to understand the complex realities and values that sustain social life. However, scholars such as Prof. T. K. Oommen and Prof. Partha N. Mukherji have emphasized in different ways, Indian sociology needs to maintain adynamic equilibrium between locally grounded social realities and broader global sociological debates.

This requires a balance between context-specific empirical inquiry and engagement with wider theoretical perspectives. Such an approach can strengthen the discipline's evidence-based and public orientation by addressing contemporary social challenges, including climate change, changing forms of employment, technological transformation, and emerging inequalities, while maintaining a substantive connection with the everyday experiences of individuals and communities.

Few of the sub-themes (but not limited to) to be deliberated upon through the Research Committees of the Indian Sociological Society, providing an opportunity to connect specialized areas of sociological research with wider theoretical and empirical concerns are as follows:

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Knowledge, Theory and Method

- Decolonising Sociological Knowledge
- Emerging Methodologies and the Future of Sociology in India
- Social Theory and Emerging Global Challenges
- Visual and Digital Sociology: Emerging Methodologies
- Sociological Theory, Epistemology and Knowledge Production
- Knowledge Production, Power and Social Institutions

Culture, Region and Identity

- Culture, Region and Pedagogy
- Culture, Identity and Social Transformation
- Ecology, Region and Social Life
- Religion, Rituals and Healing Traditions
- Art, Culture and Mobilities
- Indigenous Cultures and Knowledge Systems

Pedagogy, Institutions and Disciplinary Futures

- Pedagogy and the NEP 2020 Mandate
- Language, Belonging and Regional Identities
- Inclusivity and Equity in Learning
- Digital Education, Technology, AI and the Future of Learning
- Research, Innovation and the Future of Social Sciences

Contemporary Transformations and Public Sociology

- Re-Imagining Indian Sociology: Caste, Class, Gender, Tribe and Region
- Artificial Intelligence, E-governance and Digital Democracy
- Development, Welfare and Social Policy
- Insecurity, Informality and the Urban Everyday
- Changing Family Structures in Globalizing India
- Climate Change, Environment and Sustainability

PLENARY SESSIONS

To understand this dynamic interplay amongst abstract theory, context, and everyday practice, the Conference is organized around four core plenaries:

- Culture, Region, and Indigeneity
- Pedagogy, Profession, and Disciplinary Futures
- Indian Sociology in Retrospect: Old Roots and New Routes (In Honour of Prof. André Béteille and Prof. T.K. Oommen)
- Sociology in/of Odisha: Understanding the Region

MEMORIAL LECTURES

Three Memorial Lectures in the names of Professor M N Srinivas, Professor Radhakamal Mukherjee and Professor Yogendra Singh will be organised during the 51st All India Sociological Conference.

PAPER PRESENTATION & ISS MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATON

Research papers are invited in English and Hindi to be presented during technical sessions of the Research Committees (RCs) and the Ad-Hoc Research Committees of the Indian Sociological Society. The papers are to be prepared in consonance with the main theme of the conference.

Membership of the ISS & the respective RC is mandatory for paper presentations. Membership can be obtained through the ISS web portal https://insoso.org/membership. Only members of the Indian Sociological Society are eligible for RC Membership.

- A member can hold the membership of three RCs at the maximum, and an individual presenter is eligible to present two papers at the maximum in the conference.
- Only those who have remitted/updated their RC membership fee are eligible for paper presentations in the RC. For further details, please visit the ISS website.
- Spot registration is available only to non-presenting delegates/reseach scholar/students. Paper presenters must complete their registration by 30 November 2026.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Abstracts will be selected on the basis of the following criteria

- Relation of the topic to the theme of the conference
- Sociological relevance of the topic
- Conceptual clarity and methodological application

Abstract must follow the following format

- Title, brief introduction, objectives, significance/relevance
- Methodology
- Major findings/thesis/argument
- Between 200–250 words
- The guidelines have to be strictly adhered to, otherwise, the abstract will not be accepted.

Abstract should be submitted from the ISS website https://insoso.org/
One can log in to their ISS account and submit their abstract. Click the Video Link for instructions https://youtu.be/7N3ngzT-St8si=buq3PYTaCSoqfkKq

The last date of submission of the abstracts is on or before November 10, 2026. Abstracts should be submitted within the deadline and abstracts received beyond this date cannot be published in the 'Book of Abstracts'. **All presentations must be made in person**.

The respective RC Convenors should be contacted for any enquiry regarding abstract submission and acceptance. (Page 9-10)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

To register for the conference, one has to be a member of the ISS. For ISS membership, please visit: **https://insoso.org/membership**

For queries regarding the ISS registration, please contact, Email: **societyinsoso@gmail.com**

Registration fee should be paid through the online portal 51st All India Sociological Conference on "Culture, Region and Pedagogy: Exploring the Future of Indian Sociology" through **Internet banking/IMPS/RTGS/NEFT and UPI or scanning the QR code.**

Go to the Registation or Apply Now section in the link: https://event.kiit.ac.in/aisc2026/ for the registration. (The registration fee payment should be through this link only)

Payment Proof and Registration: After completing the payment, please upload the payment proof in JPG, PDF, or screenshot format and complete the registration process. **The registration will not be considered complete without a valid payment receipt/proof.**

Registration fee includes the Conference kit and food from the morning of December 27, 2026 to night of December 29, 2026.

Accommodation will be provided to only those delegates who have registered under the category **"Registration with accommodation"** from **December 26, 2026 evening to December 30, 2026 morning.** Those who require accommodation after moring of December 30, 2026 should arrange it personally. Accommodation will be moderate and on a shared/dormitory basis inside the campus premises. For queries regarding the AISC conference contact: iss.conf@kiit.ac.in

The last date of withdrawal of registration is November 30, 2026. In case of cancellation before the last date of withdrawal, only 75% of the registration amount will be refunded.

REGISTRATION FEE PAYMENT PROCESS

- Registration and payment for the conference can be done online through the following link **https://event.kiit.ac.in/aisc2026/registration/form/index.php**
- Fill in the registration page by giving the details requested. Using the payment method, you can make online transactions either by Internet banking/IMPS/RTGS/NEFT and UPI or scanning the QR code. (Page No. 9)
- After payment write the exact registration fees and upload the same payment fees of pdf/jpg/screenshot of **Payment Receipt / Screenshot** in the **Upload Payment Proof**. The registration will not be considered complete without a valid payment receipt/proof.
- International participants are requested to contact the organising secretaries iss.conf@kiit.ac.in for the conference registration.

PAYMENT DETAILS FOR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration Period	Delegates		Delegates		Research Scholars/ Students		Research Scholars/ Students		Foreign Participants		
	With Accommodation	Without Accommodation	*Accompanying per person with Accommodation	*Accompanying per person without Accommodation	With Accommodation	Without Accommodation	*Accompanying per person with Accommodation	*Accompanying per person without Accommodation	Delegates	Students	Accompanying per Person
Early Bird-Till 31 Oct 2026	5500	4500	5000	4000	4500	3500	4000	3000	USD 300	USD 150	USD 350
01 Nov-15 Nov 2026	6500	5500	6000	5000	5000	4000	4500	3500	USD 350	USD 200	USD 400
16 Nov-30 Nov 2026	7500	6500	7000	6000	5500	4500	5000	4000	USD 350	USD 200	USD 400
Spot Registration	8000	7000	7500	6500	6500	5500	6000	5000	USD 450	USD 300	USD 500

NOTE:

- ***Please note that the registration portal allows only one accompanying person with the participant at the time of registration.** ***(In case of accompanying, the fees includes delgates' registration fee (+) Accompanying persons' registration fee, with accommodation / without accommodation)***
- **Please ensure that the registration amount is calculated correctly and deposited into the designated bank account. Kindly double-check all details before making the payment.**
- ***In case of cancellation before the last date for withdrawal, only 75% of the registration amount will be refunded*.*** (Please note that refunds can only be processed after the conference has concluded and may be expected in January 2027)

ACCOUNT DEATILS OF REGISTRATION FEE PAYMENT

Account Name: KIIT University

Account Number: 4915101003256

Bank: Canara Bank

Branch: KIIT Branch

IFSC Code: CNRB0004915

Account Type: Savings

UPI ID: 328512388003256@cnrb

SCAN FOR FEE PAYMENT

RESEARCH COMMITTEES

RC No.	Title	Convenor	Co- Convenor	Email
RC 01	Sociology Theory and Practice	Suraj Beri	Rakesh Krishnan	iss01history20@gmail.com
RC 02	Studies on Family, Marriage and Kinship	Deepti Kaushik	Vasudev Singh	iss02familymkin20@gmail.com
RC 03	Economy and Society	Jayashree S.	Sampath Kumar	iss03economy20@gmail.com
RC 04	Migration and Diaspora Studies	Jayakumar M S	Abhay Kumar	iss04migration20@gmail.com,
RC 05	Sociology of Education	PH. Mohammad	Sreeramulu Gosikonda	iss05education20@gmail.com
RC 06	Sociology of Religion	M.T Joseph	Daisy Barman	iss06religion20@gmail.com
RC 07	Adivasi and Tribal Studies	Arvind N Haldankar	Ishwar Chandra Naik	iss07tribal20@gmail.com
RC 08	Inequalities, Stratification and Exclusion Studies	V. Sreemannarayana Murthy	Supriya Singh	iss08inequality20@gmail.com
RC 09	Dalit Studies	Rashmi	Sandhya Paudmal	iss09dalit20@gmail.com
RC 10	Gender Studies	Ajailiu Niumai	Dhananjay Sontake	iss10gender20@gmail.com
RC 11	Sociology of Environment	Manisha Rao	Jhimli Bhattacharjee	iss11environment20@gmail.com
RC 12	Sociology of Health, Ageing and Well-Being	Prabakar Soubramanian	Manushi Srivastava	iss12health20@gmail.com
RC 13	Science, Technology & Society	Madhav Govind	Seema Dutta	iss13science20@gmail.com
RC 14	Globalization and Society	Deepthi Shanker	Shreepal Chauhan	iss14globalisation20@gmail.com
RC 15	Agrarian and Rural Studies	Debal Singha Roy	A Chandrashekar Reddy, Avinash	iss15agrarianandruralstudies20@gmail.com
RC 16	Work, Labour and Organization	Smita Awachar		iss16work20@gmail.com
RC 17	Sociology of Social Movements	ShrutiTambe	Ajay Kumar / Meghna Arora	iss17movements20@gmail.com
RC 18	Social Demography	Naresh Kumar	Chandrika K. B.	iss18demography20@gmail.com

RESEARCH COMMITTEES

RC No.	Title	Convenor	Co- Convenor	Email
RC 19	Urban Studies	Kulwinder Kaur	Shankarjyoti Saikia	iss19urban20@gmail.com
RC 20	Media Studies	Kali Nath Jha	P.K. Choudhary	iss20media20@gmail.com
RC 21	Political Sociology		Nupur Pattanaik	iss21political20@gmail.com
RC 22	Conflict and Violence Studies	Chakraverti Mahajan	Sudhir Kumar	iss22conflict20@gmail.com
RC 23	Sociology of Law, Crime and Deviance	Sunil Kumar Dhul	Mamta Patel	iss23crime20@gmail.com
RC 24	Sociology of Childhood and Youth	V. Vijayalakshmi	Mouneshwar Badiger	iss24youth20@gmail.com
RC 25	Sociology of Sports	Rakesh K Tiwari	Raj Shrivastava	iss25sports20@gmail.com
RC 26	Minority Studies	Saheed Meo	Trishna Mani Thakuria	iss26minority20@gmail.com
RC 27	Sociology of Care	Samita Manna	Soumyajit Patra	iss27care20@gmail.com
RC 28	Sociology of Everyday Life	Amites Mukhopadhyay	Pinaki Roy	iss28everydaylife20@gmail.com
RC 29	Social Transformation & Development	Sampat Kale	Vinita Lal	iss29socialtransformation@gmail.com
RC 30	Digital Sociology	Mahmudul Hasan Laskar	Sukanya Das	iss30digital20@gmail.com
RC 31	Sociology of Sanitization	Jagan Karade	Prashant Bansode	iss31sociologyofsanitation25@gmail.com
RC 32	Pedagogy, Teaching and Learning	Leena Pujari	Roopa Rathnam	iss32pedagogy26@gmail.com
RC 33	Indian Sociology and Knowledge Systems	Vikash Kumar	Karunakar Singh	iss33knowledgesystems26@gmail.com

ADHOC RESEARCH COMMITTEES

Ad Hoc No.	Title	Convenor	Co- Convenor	Email
Ad Hoc 01	Food, Culture and Society	Rituparna Patgiri	Biju Vincent	missrituparnapatgiri@gmail.com
Ad Hoc 02	Visual Sociology	Satish Kumar Sharma	Vaishali Diwakar	sattish00741@yahoo.com

ABOUT ODISHA

Odisha is a region of extraordinary historical and cultural plurality, shaped by centuries of interaction among diverse communities, landscapes, and knowledge traditions. The stunning architecture, history, dialects, vibrant art and music make Odisha as India's best kept secret. Odisha, the land of Lord Jagannath, lies on the country's east coast. From the name of "Odra Desà" to "Utkala" to "Kalinga" to "Orissa" to "Odisha" - the variation of it's naming in different periods of time depicts it's epic chapter in the Indian history. From the maritime legacy of ancient Kalinga and the architectural splendour of Puri and Konark to its living traditions of Odissi, literature, music, festivals, and crafts, Odisha's heritage continues to evolve. The tapestry of 62 Adivasi communities preserve rich bodies of ecological, medicinal, artistic, and oral knowledge, while distinctive regional identities and cultural practices across the state contribute to a dynamic and plural social landscape.

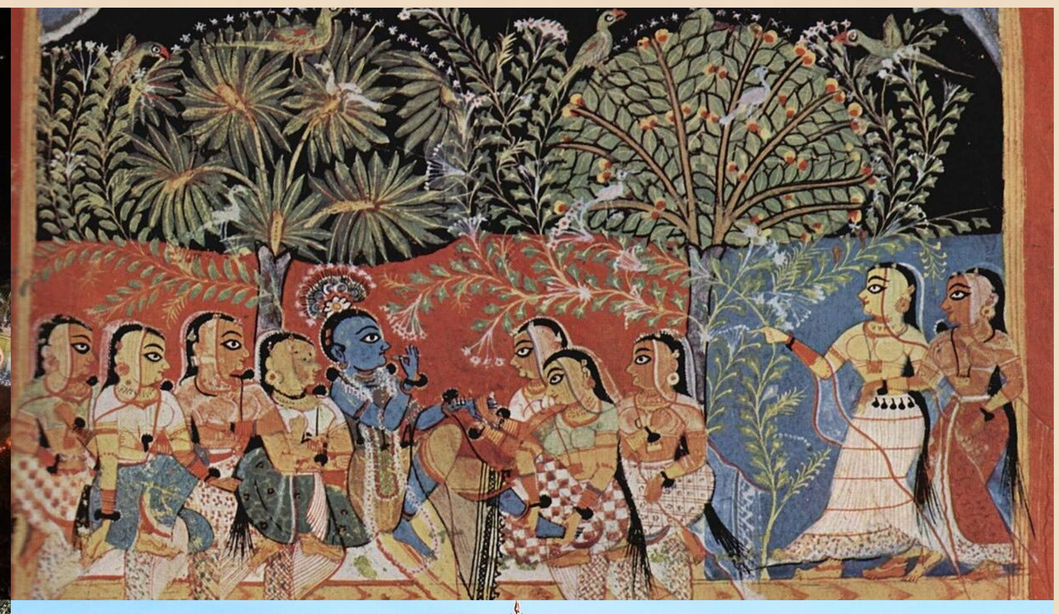
The state's geography- from its 482 km long coastline and river deltas to forests, wetlands, and agricultural landscapes has profoundly influenced its histories and livelihoods. Coastal ecology, particularly the ecosystems surrounding Chilika Lake and the Bay of Bengal, intersects with questions of environmental change, settlement, livelihoods, and mobility. Migration, both within Odisha and beyond, has been an important part of the region's social and economic history. At the same time, industrialisation, mining, infrastructure development, and expanding urban centres have transformed landscapes and created new opportunities.

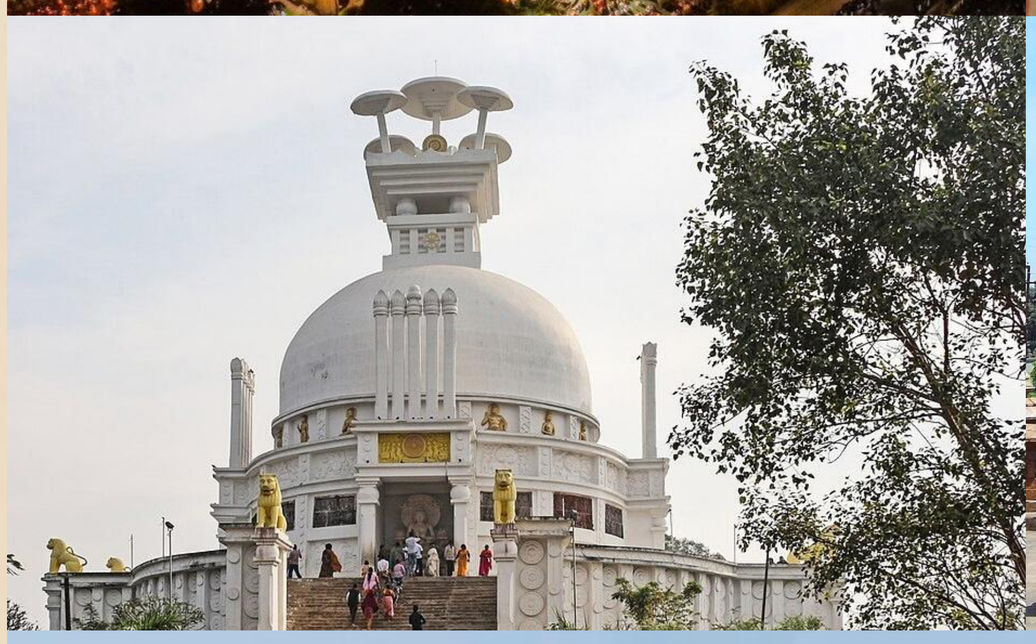
Odisha's craft traditions offer another window into the relationship between place, community, and creativity, encompassing handloom, textiles, metalwork, stone carving, appliqué, palm-leaf work, and other forms of material culture. Alongside these enduring traditions, cities such as Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Sambalpur, Rourkela, and others are experiencing significant urban transformation, reshaping patterns of work, mobility, culture, and regional belonging. Taken together, Odisha's heritage and tourism, Adivasi knowledge traditions, coastal ecology, histories of migration and industrialisation, craft practices, and evolving urban and regional identities provide a rich setting for dialogue, research, and interdisciplinary exchange.

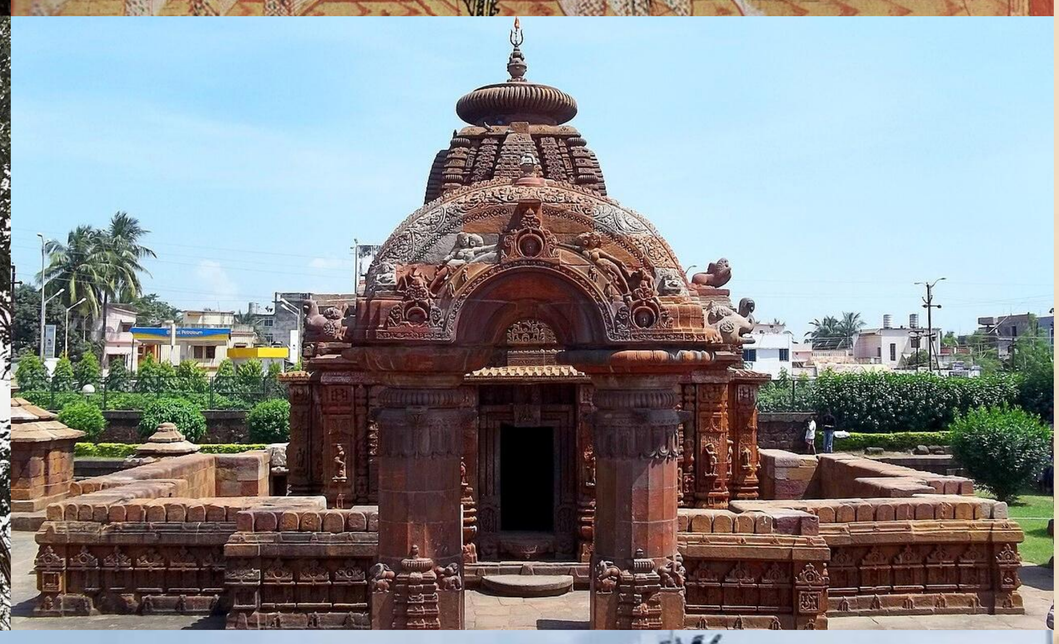
ABOUT BHUBANESWAR

Bhubaneswar, the capital of Odisha, is a city where an ancient cultural landscape meets a rapidly transforming urban environment. The city's name is derived from “Tribhubaneswar,” meaning Lord of the Three Worlds, a reference to Lord Shiva, who is worshipped as the presiding deity of the region.Known as the “Temple City,” it is home to remarkable monuments such as the Lingaraj Temple and the Mukteshwar and Rajarani temples, reflecting the distinctive architectural traditions of Kalinga. At the same time, Bhubaneswar’s museums, educational institutions, cultural spaces, markets, and contemporary public life reveal a city shaped by diverse histories and communities. Its proximity to Puri, Konark, Chilika, and other destinations also makes Bhubaneswar an important gateway to Odisha’s heritage and tourism circuits.

Today, Bhubaneswar is a growing centre of education, research, technology, commerce, governance, and sports, marked by expanding infrastructure and significant urban transformation. This planned city has not only been declared as India’s top ranked Smart City (2016) but also hosted two consecutive FIH Men’s Hockey World Cup (2018, 2023). Its planned modern core exists alongside older settlements and neighbourhoods, creating a layered urban landscape in which questions of heritage, mobility, ecology, migration, livelihoods, and regional identity intersect. This combination of historical depth and contemporary dynamism makes Bhubaneswar a fitting setting for conferences and intellectual exchange, offering participants an opportunity to engage with Odisha’s cultural plurality while experiencing a city at the intersection of tradition and change.







ABOUT KIIT DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY

Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), a household name in the education sector, has become a sought-after destination in India for professional studies. It is admired all over for the quality of its academic courses, its community outreach work and as a university of compassion and humanitarianism. It has become a case study because no other educational institution in India has grown in its scope and scale as much as KIIT has in a short span of 30 years. KIIT Deemed to be University has been accredited with A++ Grade by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and is ranked 17th in National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Ministry of Education, Government of India among all public and private universities of the country. In the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2026, KIIT is in the cohort of 501-600 ranking.

KIIT's remarkable transformation is truly a journey of glorious 30 years from purpose to pearl. From its humble beginnings in two rented rooms with 12 students and two staff members, KIIT has grown into a globally recognised institution serving over 40,000 students from across India and more than 70 countries. Spread across a 36-square-kilometre academic township, KIIT has 30 world-class campuses, 200+ academic programmes, 3,000+ faculty members and researchers, and 15,000 staff. Together with KISS, KIIT represents a family of more than one lakh people, while its vast alumni community has made significant contributions across academia, industry, civil services, entrepreneurship, and other fields. This extraordinary journey is a reflection of the vision, perseverance, and commitment of Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Founder of KIIT, KISS, and KIMS. From a modest beginning to becoming one of India's prominent global education hubs, KIIT stands as a powerful example of how a small dream, nurtured with determination and purpose, can transform into an institution of global significance.

360° Virtual Campus Tour, walk through the campus from anywhere: https://kiit.ac.in/tour/

ABOUT SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES

The School of Liberal Studies, KIIT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, is an interdisciplinary academic space dedicated to developing critical thinking, creativity, research orientation, and a deeper understanding of society and culture. The School brings together Humanities, Sociology, Psychology, Language & Literature, and Library and Information Science, creating an environment where disciplinary boundaries intersect and diverse perspectives enrich learning. Aligned with the spirit of NEP 2020, the School emphasises interdisciplinary learning, experiential education, intellectual inquiry, and the development of skills relevant to a rapidly changing world. Its academic orientation responds to contemporary transformations, including artificial intelligence, digital technologies, social change, cultural transformation, sustainability, and emerging forms of knowledge production.

The School offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral-level opportunities across its disciplines and encourages students to connect theoretical knowledge with real-world issues. Through research, seminars, conferences, internships, mentoring, and experiential learning, KSLS seeks to nurture socially aware, intellectually curious, and professionally capable graduates. KIIT School of Liberal Studies offers a flexible and interdisciplinary academic environment aligned with the NEP 2020 framework, integrating Foundation Courses, Major and Minor pathways, Skill Enhancement Courses, Value Additional Courses, Research, Internships, and Experiential Learning. The curriculum prepares students for diverse academic and professional pathways in academia, research, publishing, media, corporate communication, counselling, public policy, development sectors, NGOs, translation, digital industries, and civil services.

ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

“Understanding Society, Shaping the Future”

The Department of Sociology at School of Liberal Studies, KIIT Deemed to be University that started in 2021 has left a deep academic imprint on the landscape of Odisha. The department provides students with a dynamic and engaging learning environment combining classroom learning with experiential and field-based education. The Department boasts of faculties studied from DU, JNU, UOH, Jamia Millia Islamia and continually emphasises experiential based learning coupled with compulsory annual field visits, internship opportunities with NGOs, research organisations and UN volunteer programmes, along with one-to-one academic mentorship and career counselling. Established in line with modern educational paradigms and the New Education Policy (2020). The Department supports Undergraduate, Postgraduate and PhD programme in Sociology.

The four-year Undergraduate degree culminates in a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Sociology. Students can opt for a three years or four years Bachelor’s programme with flexible exit options. There is also 2 year MA in Sociology for those who have passed a 3 years BA programme and 1 year MA in Sociology for those who have passed 4 year BA programme with Honours or with Honours with Research.

The students from the Department have excelled in multiple fields that include engagements with Ministry and the private sector and also currently pursuing higher studies in University of Birmingham, Delhi School of Economics, University of Hyderabad, TISS (Mumbai) among others. The curriculum incorporates innovative and contemporary areas such as Digital Sociology, Sociology of Health, Climate Change and Sustainability, Science Technology and Society, Cyberculture and Digital Identities, Media and Communication, Research Methodology and Computer Application, Statistical Sociology, Sociology of War, Peace and Conflict, Sociology of Love and Intimate Relationships, Sociology of Entrepreneurship, and Food, Culture and Society. Research methodology workshops, student seminars and presentations further strengthen students’ academic and research skills, while opportunities for documentary-making on social themes and student-led initiatives encourage creativity, critical thinking and engagement with sociey beyond the classroom.

CHIEF PATRON

Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KIIT, KISS & KIMS

PATRONS

Prof. Saranjit Singh, Vice Chancellor, KIIT Deemed to be University

Prof. Debasis Bandyopadhyaya, Pro-Vice Chancellor, KIIT Deemed to be University

Prof. Jnyana Ranjan Mohanty, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Admin) cum Registrar, KIIT Deemed to be University

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Prof. Arvinder A Ansari (Secretary) Professor of Sociology, Jamia Millia Islamia

Prof. Dilip Ramdas Khairnar (Treasurer), Professor of Sociology, Deogiri College, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar.

Dr Ananya Das, Organising Secretary, 51st AISC (Assistant Professor and Associate Dean, Department of Sociology, School of Liberal Studies, KIIT Deemed to be University)

Dr. Dhirendra Kumar Sahoo, Co-Organising Secretary, 51st AISC (Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, School of Liberal Studies, KIIT Deemed to be University)

Dr. Satwik Patnaik, Co-Organising Secretary, the 51st AISC (Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, School of Liberal Studies, KIIT Deemed to be University)

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Prof. Alok Kumar Meena	Professor of Sociology and Principal, Govt Girls College, Shekhala, Jodhpur Rajasthan, India
Prof. Sudha Khokate	Professor, Department of Sociology, Bangalore University, Bangalore, India
Prof. Ramesh Makwana	Professor of Sociology, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand, Gujarat, India
Prof. Vinita Singh	Associate Professor of Sociology & Principal, Ranchi Women's College Ranchi, Jharkhand, India
Prof. Anshu Kedia	Professor and Principal, Khun Khun Ji Girls PG College Chowk, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India
Prof. Bibhuti Bhushan Malik	Professor of Sociology and Vice Chancellor, Rajendra University, Balangir, Odisha, India
Prof. Pramod Kumar Shukla	Professor of Sociology, Department of Applied Science and Humanities,KIPM Institute of Engineering and Technology, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, India
Prof. Sandip Murlidhar Chaudhari	Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, SBES College of Arts and Commerce, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar (Aurangabad), Maharashtra, India
Prof. Sanjay Nilkanth Kolekar	Associate Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, India
Prof. Khwaja Mohammed Ziyauddin	Associate Professor of Sociology, Head, Department of Sociology, SA&SS, Maulana Azad National Urdu University (a central university), Hyderabad, India
Prof. Nilika Mehrotra	Professor of Sociology, Centre for the study of Social Systems Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India
Prof. Rajni Bala	Associate Professor of Sociology, Baring Union Christian College, Batala, Punjab, India
Prof. Rukmini Sen	Professor of Sociology, School of Liberal Studies, Dr. B R Ambedkar University Delhi, Delhi, India
Prof. Sudeshna Mukherjee	Director & Associate Professor, Centre for Social Impact, Chanakya University, Bengaluru, India

CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEE MEMBERS (51st AISC 2026)

ORGANISING COMMITTEE	
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Dr. Ananya Das	KIIT University
Dr. Dhirendra Kumar Sahoo	KIIT University
Dr. Satwik Patnaik	KIIT University
Dr. Manoranjan Mohapatra	KISS University
Dr. Tania Mishra	KIIT University
Dr. Sital Mohanty	KIIT University
Dr. Lucy Mishra	KIIT University
Dr. Bidu Bhushan Dash	KIIT University
Dr. Maitree Padhi	KISS University
Dr. Soma Parija	KIIT University
Dr. Roopa K.L.	KIIT University
Dr. Sabyasachi Rout	KISS University
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Mr. Somnath Mishra	KIIT University
Mr. Rabindra Murmu	KISS University
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Ms. Shruti Kanungo	KIIT University
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Ms. Preeti Das	KIIT University

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Dr. Monalisa Mishra	KISS University
Dr. Suchismita Pramanik	KIIT University
Dr. Shruti Sudha Mishra	KISS University
Dr. Ananya Das	KISS University
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Dr. Satwik Patnaik	KIIT University
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Dr. Ananya Das	KISS University
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Ms. Shruti Kanungo	KIIT University
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Mr. Gopal Dhanuka	KIIT University
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STUDENT DELEGATION COMMITTEE	
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Mr. Krishna Prasad Ram	KIIT University
Ms. Preeti Das	KIIT University

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Dr. Saswat Kishore Mishra	KIIT University
Dr. Dhirendra Kumar Sahoo	KIIT University
Dr. Satwik Patnaik	KIIT University

EXPLORING BHUBANESWAR

Marvel at the Architecture of Lingaraj Temple:
This 11th-century monument dedicated to Lord Shiva is the crown jewel of the Temple City. Renowned for its magnificent Kalinga architecture, intricate stone carvings, and immense spiritual heritage, it offers an unforgettable glimpse into the region's sacred history.

Step Back in Time at Udayagiri and Khandagiri Caves:
These ancient rock-cut caves, dating back to the 2nd century BCE, served as residential blocks for Jain monks. Featuring historical inscriptions, ornate carvings, and panoramic views of the city, they provide a fascinating window into India's early monastic life.

Unwind at the Scenic Ekamra Kanan Botanical Gardens:
Spread over vast acres, this lush urban oasis is home to a tranquil lake, vibrant flower displays, and a famous rose garden. It serves as a peaceful retreat for visitors looking to relax amidst nature in the heart of the city.

Discover Local Crafts at Ekamra Haat:
This traditional handicraft market showcases Odisha's rich artisanal heritage under one roof. Visitors can observe skilled craftspeople, explore authentic handloom textiles, and purchase world-famous Pattachitra paintings and stone sculptures.

Experience Peace at Dhauli Giri Peace Pagoda:
Situated on the banks of the Daya River, this historical site marks the legendary battlefield where Emperor Ashoka embraced Buddhism and non-violence. The brilliant white Shanti Stupa (Peace Pagoda), surrounding rock edicts, and scenic hilltop views make it a profound symbol of peace and heritage.

Discover Wildlife at Nandankanan Zoological Park:
Nestled within the lush Chandaka forest, this world-renowned zoo and botanical garden is famous for its white tigers and rich biodiversity. Visitors can enjoy open-air safari rides, explore the peaceful Kanjia Lake by boat, and observe diverse flora and fauna in a natural habitat.

Highlight of Host Campus:
Witness Social Empowerment at KISS (Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences): A sister institute of KIIT, KISS is a world-renowned, home-grown institution providing free, fully residential education, healthcare, and vocational training from kindergarten to post-graduation to over 40,000 Indigenous tribal children. Recognized globally by the United Nations and awarded the UNESCO International Literacy Prize, a visit to KISS offers an inspiring, first-hand look at one of the world's largest transformative models of holistic empowerment and social development.

BEYOND BHUBANESWAR: THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE & HERITAGE TRAIL

Seek Blessings at the Holy City of Puri:
Located along the Bay of Bengal, Puri is one of India's four sacred Char Dham pilgrimage sites. Home to the legendary 12th-century Shree Jagannath Temple and the Blue Flag-certified Golden Beach, visitors can experience a unique blend of spiritual heritage, grand temple architecture, and serene coastal views.

Marvel at the Sun Temple of Konark:
A UNESCO World Heritage site, this 13th-century architectural masterpiece is designed as a monumental stone chariot for the Sun God, complete with 24 intricately carved wheels and seven horses. Situated near the picturesque Chandrabhaga Beach, Konark stands as an enduring monument to ancient engineering and artistic brilliance.

Walk Through the Living Art Village of Raghurajpur:
Nestled among tropical coconut groves near Puri, Raghurajpur is a world-renowned heritage crafts village where every home is an artisan studio. Delegates can interact directly with master craftspeople, observe live demonstrations of traditional Pattachitra scroll paintings and palm-leaf engravings, and witness authentic Gotipua classical dance traditions.

Special Day Trip: Chilika Lake:
Cruise Asia's Largest Brackish Water Lagoon, located a scenic drive away from the capital, Chilika Lake is a paradise for nature lovers and birdwatchers. December marks the peak season when millions of migratory birds arrive from Siberia and Central Asia. Delegates can enjoy boat cruises at Satapada to spot the rare Irrawaddy dolphins, visit the island shrine of Goddess Kalijai, or explore the pristine beach where the lagoon meets the Bay of Bengal.

VENUE & ACCESSIBILITY

The Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) Deemed to be University campus is located in the vibrant, historical city of Bhubaneswar, Odisha. It is well-connected and easily accessible from all parts of the country:

By Air: Biju Patnaik International Airport (BBI) is located approximately 12 km from the KIIT campus, offering direct flight connections to major metropolitan cities including New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Chennai.

By Rail: Bhubaneswar Railway Station (BBS) is a major junction on the East Coast Railway network, located about 13 km from the campus, with frequent superfast and express trains connecting all regions of India.

By Road: Bhubaneswar is situated on National Highway 16 (NH-16). The city is well-linked via state and interstate bus services, with the main Interstate Bus Terminal (ISBT Baramunda) located within city limits.

WEATHER IN BHUBANESWAR – DECEMBER

Bhubaneswar experiences pleasant, comfortable, and mild winter weather during December, making it an ideal time to visit the Temple City. The average daytime temperatures range between 26°C to 28°C (78°F to 82°F), with cool, refreshing evenings that drop to around 15°C to 18°C (59°F to 64°F).

The skies remain predominantly clear and sunny with minimal to no rainfall. Delegates can look forward to pleasant daytime weather and mild, crisp evenings. We recommend light woollens, a jacket, or a warm shawl for the evenings, while daytime attire can remain light, comfortable, and casual.

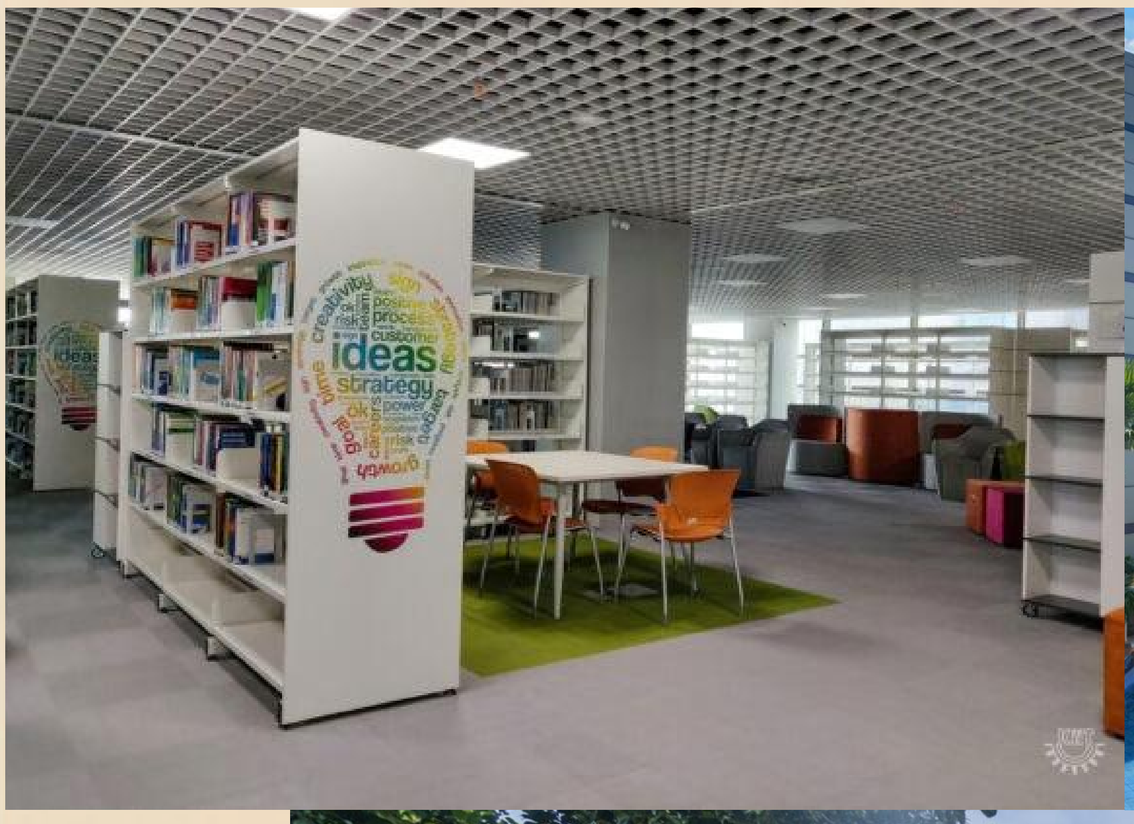
CONTACT

For queries regarding the 51st AISC 2026 Conference, and
for questions about ISS membership and registration

ISS membership & registration
For queries regarding the ISS registration and Society membership.
societyinsoso@gmail.com

Abstract enquiries
The respective RC Convenors should be contacted for any enquiry regarding abstract submission and acceptance**.**
Research Committee contacts *(Page 9-10)*

51st AISC Conference enquiries:
For queries regarding the AISC conference, including accommodation and accompanying persons.
iss.conf@kiit.ac.in



OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

PURPOSE TO PEARL

1997 - 2027

Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT)
Deemed to be University
Patia, Bhubaneswar
Odisha, India
Pin Code: 751024

www.kiit.ac.in

8080735735 (For Admission at KIIT)

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7327019468 / 9650869334 (For Sociology Admission)

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