



[Accredited Grade “A+” by NAAC]

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
*Interrogating the Trends of Rural Development and Social
Transformation in South Asia***

**Organised by
Department of Sociology,
Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
in collaboration with Indian Sociological Society,
Department of Anthropology and Global Centre for Rural Studies,
Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751004
(From 2-4 October, 2019)**

Background

The rural social structure including gender, caste, class, religious communities, tribal communities, etc have been undergoing rapid changes over the last several decades in particular and over the century in general. Consequently, the socio-cultural and technological changes brought in rural societies have produced both positive and negative implications. Simultaneously, many academic studies such as gender studies, studies on family, marriage and kinship, tribal studies, dalit studies, stratification and exclusion studies, conflict and violence studies, minority studies, religion studies, study of social movements, study of science, technology & society, environmental studies, agrarian studies, study of globalization and culture, studies related to health, education, polity, etc have come up to address the critical issues related to such changes.

However, the economic impacts on rural societies are somewhat neglected in sociological and anthropological research. In fact, the rural development programmes

have immensely influenced the above studies and led the rural space to turn toward urbanised space. The development projects i.e. irrigation, mining and industries have severely impacted rural communities and their social, economic, cultural and political lives as well. Further, the current slogan of changing villages into towns, towns into cities, cities into metro-cities and metro-cities into mega cities invites alarming consequences.

Nevertheless the rural space continues to remain an identity marker for each nation state although more than fifty percent of world's population lives in urban area at present. Even in the highly urbanized space rural ethnicity is proliferating. For instance, the vigour of melting pot theory has been debunked and outdated in the most modernized western world throughout the last century. On the other hand, the rural space- hinterland, remote cottages and villages remain no more sacrosanct. The urbanised developments are eating into the roots of the rural space by destabilizing its green environment and green thinking of rural folks in rural south Asia including India at present. In this dualism, the rural world is more at the receiving end in comparison to the urban world. Further as compared to urban world the rural world continues to lag behind in many socio-economic fronts. Although, we experience the results of rural development activities and social changes but to what extent these have been witnessing the truth of social transformation among the ruralites is a matter of question.

In this context, it is high time to critically analyse the changing trends of rural development and social transformation. The debate and discussion on this dynamics involving university and college faculty, national and international research scholars and more importantly research communities and conveners of Indian Sociological Society who have been academically involved in studying Indian societies are not only crucial but also inevitable.

This International Conference will invite the deliberation on rural development and social transformation and their retrospective and prospective issues & challenges at large.

The conference will have the following themes

- ❖ Conceptual Issues
- ❖ Rural Development today
- ❖ Development Projects and Social Transformation
- ❖ Sustainable Agriculture and Development
- ❖ Women and Agriculture Development
- ❖ Participatory Development
- ❖ Scheduled Tribe and Development
- ❖ Scheduled Caste and Development
- ❖ Rural Women and Development
- ❖ Globalization and Development
- ❖ Science, Technology and Society
- ❖ Rural Environment and Development

Duration and Venue

The conference will be organized from 2- 4 October, 2019. **It will start from 2nd October, 2019 afternoon at P.G.Council Hall, Utkal University Vani Vihar.** Utkal University is the oldest University of the state of Odisha and the 17th oldest University in India. It is with an area of 399.9 acre located at Vani Vihar in the heart of Bhubaneswar city. Bhubaneswar derived from the word Tribhubaneswara which means the Eswara of the three Worlds. With Puri and Konark Bhubaneswar forms Golden Triangle which is the famous tourist destination in eastern India. The city is a symbolic confluence of three major religions of the world- Jainism, Buddhism and Hinduism. Surrounded by so many temples Bhubaneswar is rightly known as the "Temple City of India".

Bhubaneswar has a tropical climate. In winter, there is much less rainfall in Bhubaneswar than in summer. The average annual temperature and rainfall are recorded 27.4 °C and 1505 mm respectively in the city. In the summer season (March to May) average maximum temperature is 36° C whereas it is 28° C in winter season (November to February). During monsoon season (June to October) average maximum temperature is about 32° C.

Guidelines for abstract submission

Abstract must be submitted by 5th September, 2019

Abstract should be of 300 words (please do not exceed word limit) that includes the following: 1. Title of paper; relation of the paper to themes of the conference. 2. An indication of the broad theoretical orientation (where appropriate to the proposal). 3. A description of the forms of original research that the paper will report on and/or a summary of the types of material the paper will discuss. The abstract must not contain tables / illustrations or foot notes/references.

Please send abstracts to: Dr.Rabindra Garada, Organising Secretary of the conference, uusocioconference@gmail.com

Mobile: 9437517126

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(Organising Secretary)

Department of Sociology

Utkal University, Vani Vihar,

Bhubaneswar, Odisha

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-751004**

Name

Gender: Male Female

Professional Status

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Address

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Registration fee

For Faculty- 1000/-

For Research Scholars- 500/-

Signature of the Participant

We request you kindly to fill up the registration form and send it along with the abstract by **5th September, 2019** to: **uusocioconference@gmail.com**

We look forward to your participation in the Conference.

Dr. Rabindra Garada
(Organising Secretary)