

**Planetary Futures and the Global South
IASA Biennial Conference,
16-18 January 2018**



Planetary Futures and the Global South IASA Biennial Conference,

At : Dept. of English, MLS University Udaipur

In association with:

DAAD-Global South Network, University of Tuebingen

JNU-UPE-II Project "Asian Crossroads: Indic

Neighbourhoods, Global Connections,"

Project on Science and Spirituality, JNU

Samvad India Foundation, New Delhi



India has been called the "cross-roads" of the entire region of the Indian Ocean ecumene, literally on the "road to everywhere." For almost every important intellectual, political, and cultural current from East to the West and from West to the East, India became the point of transition, mediation, or even fruition. This is as true of the evolution of British colonialism in Asia and Australia as it is of prior times. The question, however, is how these connections might play out in the future, but also in terms of how futures are to be imagined, designed, and executed from hereon. It is this exciting discursive terrain of future studies that this conference will focus on, with special reference to India, Australia, and the Global South.

The aim of this conference is to study some of these cross currents of Global Futures, to document available knowledge about them to explore alternative futures for Indic-Australian inter-relationships, and to create new paradigms for understanding the globalization of both India and Australia in this light. Our main objective, then, would be to try to explore Indic-Australian connections from colonialism to global futures and begin to explore the range of ideas and processes implicit to these processes. With this view we plan to engage with the history, politics, and cultural formations of cross-connections between India, Australia, and the Global South, including Africa and Latin America, giving primacy to oceanic and cross-continental intellectual and cultural traffic. In addition, the conference will focus on issues such as traditional knowledge systems, spiritual and sacred practices, Indo-Australasian nationalisms, transfers of science, technology, and culture, and relations in social practices, arts, and media in the region, especially as they impact our thinking on Global Futures. At its most ambitious, this project is about "re-presenting" India, Australia, and the Global South not just in a post-imperialistic, increasingly globalized world-system, but beyond these into systematic thinking and planning of planetary futures.



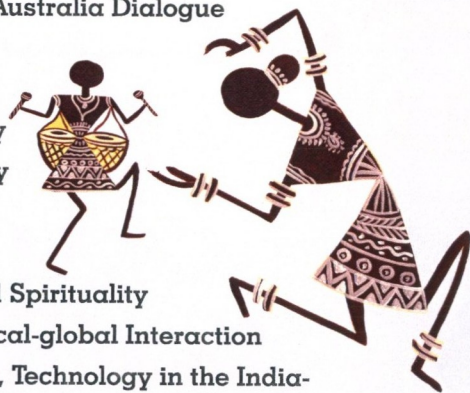
The word “represent” is used here in both its commonly understood senses, as *likeness*, bringing to life or going back to its Latin root *esse* or presence, represent as *making present*. But every description is, necessarily, also an interpretation. So to represent Indo-Australian connections in their oceanic, global, and futures contexts would also be to reinterpret them. The other meaning of represent is to stand or speak for; to resisting others' definitions of us, so that we, in India, Australia, and others in the Global South, speak for ourselves, taking charge of how we represent ourselves. Indeed, both ways of looking at Indic-Australian connections are relevant to our conference.

In our shared contexts, this might imply the constructing of new disciplinary paradigms or institutional apparatuses. It might also mean competing for legitimization in how our regions are understood or studied, finally to declare ourselves as interested parties or stake-holders in such a process of designing Global Futures. It would also implicate us in challenging other, for example, imperial representations and to offer alternatives to them. The composition of research groups, with experts from the various communities of India, Australia, and the Global South, to examine their inter-relationships, and, finally, their connections with flows in capital, culture, science and technology, along with the futures of such, would be the ultimate outcome of this conference.

Themes of the Conference

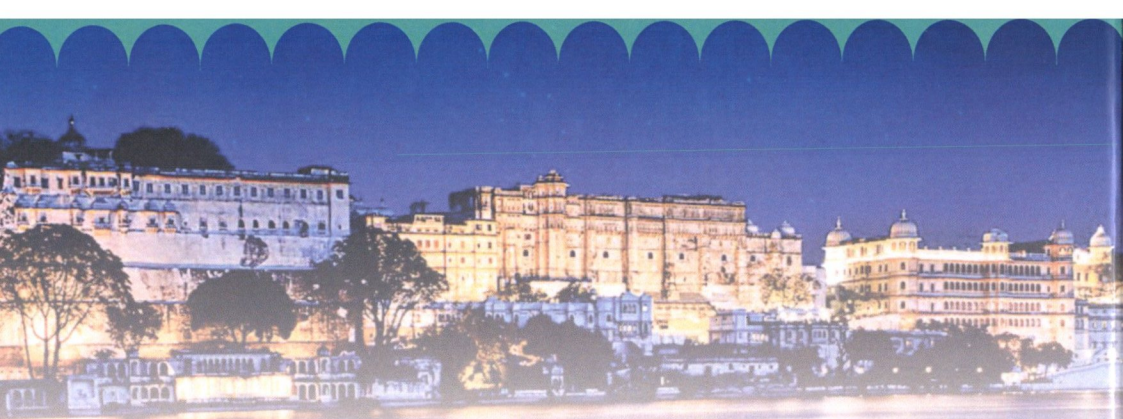


1. Planetary Futures: India, Australia, and the Global South, including Africa and Latin America
2. Crossroads: Roots and Routes in the India-Australia Dialogue
3. Global-Local Knowledge Flows
4. Alternative Global South: Who's Futures?
5. Indian Ocean: Culture, Geography, Security
6. Heritage Futures: Epistemology and Identity
7. History and its Shadows
8. Spiritual Pragmatics
9. Traditional Knowledge, Sacred Practice and Spirituality
10. Nationalisms and Beyond: The Politics of Local-global Interaction
11. Hybrid Knowledge Futures: Science, Culture, Technology in the India-Australia context,



and the Global South, including Africa and Latin America

12. Representations: Media and the Arts – Re-Orient
13. Research as Resistance: Voice and Optimism in a Shrinking World
14. Pathways to Meaning and Co-Creation: Research Collaborations Across Borders



About Udaipur

Udaipur is famous around the world as the City of Lakes or the Venice of the East. The city is considered as one of the most beautiful cities in the state.

Udaipur is well connected to the world through land, rail and air. It is known for its Rajput-era palaces. The City Palace, or the Palace of the then King of Mewar, is one of the most beautiful places to visit in the city.

Climate

The climate of Udaipur is tropical with the mercury staying between a maximum of 42.3°C and a minimum of 28.8°C during summers. Winters are a little cold with the maximum temperature rising to 28.8°C and the minimum dipping to 2.5°C. The annual total rainfall received at Udaipur is 61 cm. Winters (September-March) are the best period for visiting Udaipur.

RSVP:

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