



HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES DIGEST

APRIL-MAY 2025

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (ISM)
DHANBAD

From the HOD's Desk



Dear Colleagues, Alumni, Research Scholars, Students, Staff and all well-wishers,

With great pleasure, we present the Departmental Newsletters, which serve as a platform to engage, enlighten, and strengthen our commitment to fostering an environment that encourages critical thinking, scholarly inquiry, and interdisciplinary dialogue. Through focused research and innovative pedagogy, we aim to deepen our understanding of human society, culture, and the arts.

Our faculty and researchers continue to push the boundaries of interdisciplinary research, engaging with challenges through the lenses of history, philosophy, literature, sociology, psychology, and more. This year, we have launched several new research initiatives and projects that highlight the relevance of the humanities and social sciences in today's rapidly changing world. These initiatives not only reflect our commitment to academic excellence but also demonstrate our desire to connect our work with real-world impact. We are particularly proud of the strides we've made in fostering a more inclusive and diverse academic environment, a crucial aspect of maintaining the vitality of our disciplines.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the upcoming conferences, guest lectures, and cultural events. These gatherings will provide further opportunities for learning, collaboration, and intellectual growth. I encourage all members of our community to participate and contribute to these efforts. Finally, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our dedicated faculty, staff, research scholars, and students.

Thank You.

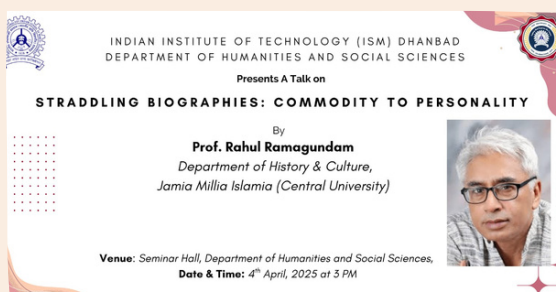
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nirban Manna', with a horizontal line underneath.

Prof. Nirban Manna
HoD, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), Dhanbad
Jharkhand. 826004

DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS

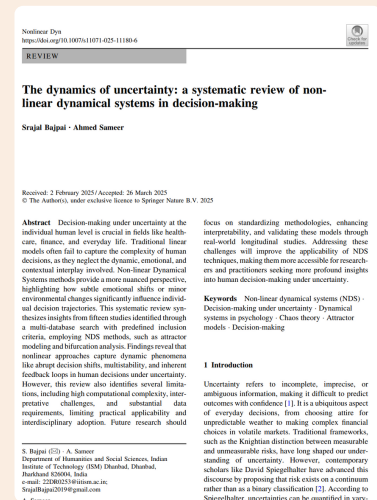


The Department organized a talk on the topic "Criticality in Qualitative Inquiries: Vistas for Exploring and Promoting Human Well-Being" on April 11, 2025. The talk was delivered by Dr. Kumar Ravi Priya, Professor of Psychology at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Kanpur. The session provided valuable insights into the significance of critical perspectives in qualitative research and their relevance to promoting human well-being.



The organized a talk on the topic "Straddling Biographies: Commodity to Personality" on April 4, 2025. The talk was delivered by Prof. Rahul Ramagundam, an acclaimed author and academician from the Department of History and Culture, Jamia Millia Islamia (Central University), New Delhi. The session was followed by an engaging interaction with the students.

Srajal Bajpai and Prof. Ahmed Sameer published their article titled "The dynamics of uncertainty: a systematic review of non-linear dynamical systems in decision-making" in *Nonlinear Dynamics: An International Journal of Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos in Engineering Systems*
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11071-025-11180-6>



Kumari Sarika, Devu Rajeev, Dr Sucharita Maji and Dr Gerald Jordan published their research titled "Mental Health of Indian Transgender Individuals: a Metaethnography" in *Early Intervention in Psychiatry*



Sofiya Shahiwala and Prof. Rahul D R published "Digital Games for Language Learning: A Scoping Review" in Research Synthesis in Applied Linguistics.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/29984475.2025.2497862>

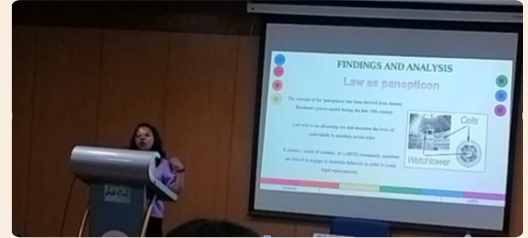


Sofiya Shahiwala and Prof. Rahul D R published "Protocol for Bayesian Meta-analysis on Digital Game-Enhanced Vocabulary Learning" in Research Synthesis in Applied Linguistics

<https://doi.org/10.1080/29984475.2025.2490568>

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Theodora Cecilia Gomes, presented a paper titled 'Law = Panopticon? Surveillance of Queer Bodies' at the National Seminar on "Protecting the Rights of Vulnerable Class in India" organized by the Department of Law, Aliah University on 11th May 2025.



Simran Bhimjyani and Dr. Shanmugapriya T presented their panel titled “Electronic Ecologies: A Study on the Representation of Nature in Indian Electronic Literature” at the Global DH Symposium 2025, hosted virtually by Michigan State University from April 2–8, 2025.

Rupsha Chakraborty presented (virtually) a paper titled "Traversing the field: Layered Ethnographic Readings of a Cultural Market Space in India" at the Fourth Global South Graduate Student Conference organised by Centre for Social Science Research at George Mason University on 1st and 2nd May.

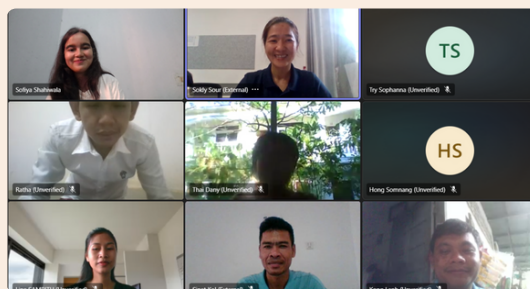


INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS



Kshitish Sharma gave a talk on "Panpsychism and Individuation: A Mādhva Gauḍīya Vedānta Perspective on Consciousness" at an International Conference on God and Consciousness in Indian Traditions organized at Rishikesh on April 9-11, 2025.

Sofiya Shahiwala was invited to deliver a workshop on "Classroom Engagement and Task-based Teaching" on 1st March 2025 at the Teacher Development Support Organization (TDSO), Cambodia. The session brought together over 50 teachers and teacher trainers from Cambodia and beyond. Through hands-on activities and reflective discussions, the workshop offered training on implementing task-based approaches to enhance language learning outcomes.



Shreya Mandal has delivered a talk on "The Importance of Mental Health Conversations in University Settings: A Social Perspective" at the DESTRESS Programme Dissemination Event conducted by Warwick Medical School (UK) at the British Council Office, Kolkata on 21st March, 2025.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Shreya Mandal has participated in an online workshop on "Structural Existential Analysis: An Existential-Phenomenological Method for Researching Life" on 28th March, 2025 by Emmy van Deurzen & Claire Arnold-Baker

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Keshav Sawarn has been selected as 2025's recipient of the Ted Bradshaw Student Research Award provided by the Community Development Society (CDS). This fund is for the purpose of defraying the cost of travel to the CDS meeting in July in Geneva, New York and/or supporting the community-based research work.

Achievement of Masters students



M.A.Batch (2023-25)

Three out of six students from the first outgoing batch of MA in Digital Humanities successfully secured placements, with impressive offers of ₹12 LPA, ₹11.28 LPA, and ₹4.6 LPA.

Kaushiki Chowdhury, (virtually) presented paper titled “Using Web Scraping to Analyze Gendered Language in Online Cricket Fandoms” at the 10th annual Global DH Symposium hosted by the Michigan State University in April, 2025

Ravi Ranjan Kumar Wrote a blog titled "AI's Role in Shaping Future Ethics: Who Teaches AI Right from Wrong?" for the Historica Foundation. <https://www.historica.org/blog/ais-role-in-shaping-future-ethics-who-teaches-ai-right-from-wrong>

Ravi also attended the webinar on "Alondra Nelson and Cathy N. Davidson: AI and the Future of Higher Education" organised by the Team of HASTAC Scholar.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Editorial Board

Dr. Sucharita Maji
Dr. Shanmugapriya T
Simran Bhimjyani
Mehulkumar Desai

Find out more at:

hss.iitism.ac.in

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Phone: +91-326-2235277 (O)

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad,

Dhanbad- 826004 , Jharkhand, India