

Faculty, Research scholars and Postgraduate Students are invited to present papers at this conference on the aforementioned related sub themes.

Each paper should be about 4000 words. Interested scholars may send their abstracts of about 250 – 300 words by 2 April 2023. Acceptance of the abstracts will be communicated by 6th April 2023. Papers of good academic quality will be selected for publication.

#### REGISTRATION FEE FOR THE PAPER PRESENTERS

- Faculty from Indian and other SAARC countries INR 1,000
- Students (Masters and Ph.D.) from India and other SAARC countries INR 250
- International Scholars other than SAARC Countries USD 50
- International Graduate students other than SAARC countries USD 20

**KINDLY SEND YOUR ABSTRACT TO [joinconfunom@gmail.com](mailto:joinconfunom@gmail.com)**

For any further clarification, you may kindly contact

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+91 8072-31-1592

#### CONVENERS

Dr. S. Armstrong,  
Director, Chepauk Campus &  
Head, Department of English, University of Madras

Dr Amitha Santiago,  
Dean, PG Studies &  
Head, Department of English Studies,  
Bishop Cotton Women's Christian College and Post  
Graduate Centre

Dr. K. James Ponniah,  
Head i/c, Department of Christian Studies,

#### CO-CONVENERS

Faculties,  
Department of English, University of Madras,  
Department of English Studies, Bishop Cotton Women's Christian College and Post Graduate Centre,  
Department of Christian Studies, University of Madras.

#### ORGANIZING SECRETARIES

Mr. N. Chibenthung Lotha,  
SRF, Department of Christian Studies  
Mr. Arokia Dass J,  
PhD Scholar, Department of Christian Studies  
Mr. George David,  
PhD Scholar, Department of English

Mrs. Shwetha.M  
Guest Faculty, Bishop Cotton Women's Christian College.  
Miss. Samantha Christopher,  
Guest Faculty, Bishop Cotton Women's Christian College

#### VENUE

F50, First Floor,  
Centenary Building, Chepauk Campus,  
University of Madras, Chennai. 600-005

University of Madras - Department of English ,  
The Department of Christian Studies



and

Department of English Studies, Bishop  
Cotton Women's Christian College and Post  
Graduate Centre.

Invites you to

**A Multi-Disciplinary Joint Conference  
12th and 13th April 2023**



**Conversing  
with the  
'Other'  
within:  
Race,  
Gender and  
Religion in  
the Global  
South**



## Call for Papers

Historically, the Other has featured as the grid whereupon and wherein identities, understandings, and questions have taken shape. In philosophy, literature, religion, and culture the Self has logocentrically been rearranged in terms of its Other, the latter solidifying and granting the Self existential and representative spaces to find belonging and articulation. The Self and the Other have in this way performed a rite of relatedness and redressal. This politics of co-dependency has often taken oppressive and exploitative forms delivering to the Self a hierarchical and therefore infrastructural supremacy.

However, this oppositional dynamic crumbles ever so often in resistances and interrogative face offs between the Self and Other or when the Self turns Other or discovers the Other within and/or when the Self seeks its Other or finds itself in the Other.

The spaces of such encounters are many and this conference prepares the ground for investigating the range of Others that can be made possible. Multiple traditions of philosophy, religion, literature, and culture in the global south exhibit these dialectics of the Other within/without variously.

We invite you to explore this stealthy, hidden and clandestine Other as it manifests in the rich traditions and literatures of the global south.

This conference identifies three main identity systems wherein the other is nurtured and met with, namely, race, gender and religion. Multiple religious, communitarian, racial and gendered collectives display and recognize the inevitability of conversations that surface and find representation when the Self finds the Other close at hand.

Levinas inaugurated this inevitability when he spoke of “the indebtedness we have to the face of the Other”, Lacan presented the Other and the Big Other manifested in symbol and image, while Raimon Panikkar reached for the other within through the window of the dialogue. Spivak, Bhabha and Derrida further explored the nature of othering and otherness. Given the historicity and contemporaneity of this layered construct, we invite papers on any of the following themes, although related themes not listed here will also be welcomed.

All papers should be :

Times New Roman 12, line spacing 1.5 and must contain the full name and affiliation of the Presenter.

## Sub - Themes

- The dialectics of the Other and Self in Race, Religion and Gender
- Individual and collective identities of Otherness
- Articulating the Other of the Global South in philosophy, literature, religion, folk and popular culture and media
- Representations of the Other in autobiographies
- Power, Memory, Forgetting and the Other
- The epistemological Other in the Global South
- The hermeneutics of the Other in sacred scriptures and religious rituals
- The mystic Other and Bhakti
- Dalit encounters as the face of the Other
- The Other in aesthetics, spatiality, ethnomusicology and performance arts
- The migrant/refugee/homeless/ incarcerated Other of urbanity
- The pandemic, loss, grief and the Other
- Education and the gendered Other Within
- Spatializing the Other in the metropolis
- Mental health and conversations with the gendered/racial/religious Other