

KARVAN-e-FIKR

Annual fest organised by the Department of Sociology, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
Inter-University Students' Seminar- 25th March, 2022

THEME- PANDEMIC AND SOCIETY

CONCEPT NOTE

Covid-19 has made its way through the lives of every individual directly or indirectly in these past two years, but what has been directly disturbed in that process is the Social. Now what exactly is this category of the Social and has the pandemic impacted it in a universal way for all in terms of the consequent destructions and restorations? Explicit, unexpected, and ever-lasting stigma(s) and the new normal(s) have been derived out of this global havoc which invites in-depth introspection. The metamorphosis of the public space has been accompanied by a perceptible blurring of the boundaries that separated the public from the private, the public from the social, and the facts from the myths.

Intersectionality has become even more prominent, with pre-existing and newer forms of inequalities and global health emergencies amplifying in the postmodern diegesis. The notion of equal but not the same has been distorted. Newer associations have led to newer potentialities that are not necessarily fructiferous. We were put forth to witness the epitome of alienation of humans from nature. This brings us to the structural question of whether nature can be stabilised only when isolated from the human world that forms a major part of the society thus making the world anti-social?

What becomes cardinal here is to not have a rigorous reliance on natural sciences solely to understand the pandemic but also to avail oneself of a sociological lens. This is required to explore the changes in nature's relation with people and relations amongst the people in terms of social hierarchy, sense of community, marginalisation and social reality. The widespread phenomenon has brought into light the functional, structural, and interdisciplinary notions of the social.

Keeping the above ideas central, we invite papers on the following sub-themes:

Pandemic and the altered nature of the Social.

The impact of the pandemic is multidimensional, how does it pertain to the interconnectedness of the society?

Gender, caste, and class dynamic in the context of Covid-19.

The notion of power and hierarchy becomes more visible or invisible in a society of masked individuals.

Covidiquette - A(s) new normal: Where behaviour, health, and legislation intersect.

The pandemic has made us shift from what "one should" to what "one ought to", hence manifesting its socio-psychological impact. So, how can one analyse this shift in behaviour in terms of health and legislation?

Social and community-based coping mechanism during pandemic.

With the population being categorised as patient, potential-patient, suspected, vaccinated, partially vaccinated, non-vaccinated, the notion of being has changed. Emotions or affect, undermined by instrumental rationality was reflected in instances wherein families of the deceased rejected the body as a precaution, requiring Sociology's address on death.

Pandemic and the shifts in paradigms and research methodology.

The field of academia and the hazard of physical proximity. How does a researcher balance the two?

The idea of dissent in a pandemic-ridden world.

Dissent in a hashtag world. Have contemporary circumstances crushed the right to dissent?

Globalisation and public policy amidst the pandemic.

The international order in terms of economy, travel, work, etc has faced grave challenges. Policies were adopted throughout the world influenced by political, bureaucratic, scientific, and social interests.

The transformation of space in everyday life.

Pertaining to the questions of lived space, public space, etc, how important is urban landscape in a health emergency?

The Changing Dynamics of Religion in a Pandemic.

The performative aspects of religion in the form of rituals, pilgrimages, etc have touched upon an alternative reality. The Pandemic is also perceived uniquely by religious believers.

Reimagining a post-pandemic world.

The priorities and calculated risks of a post-pandemic scenario.

Guidelines for Paper Presenters-

Please note that the outlined themes are indicative and suggestive only. Papers touching upon other relevant issues around the theme can also be considered for presentation. Participants may inform the organisers under what theme they want their paper to be presented. The call for papers is open to Undergraduate and Postgraduate students; Research scholars or Research assistants/associates studying in government-approved educational institutions from all streams. The presenters may use audio-visual materials wherever relevant. The expected length of the Final paper to be submitted may range from 2500 to 4000 words to be presented in 15 minutes. The interested participants should send an abstract of 250-300 words in a PDF format to both of these email ids- pratagoyal2910@gmail.com and gariyoshi.das@gmail.com by 23rd March 2022 to be screened by the Faculty of the Department of Sociology, Jamia Millia Islamia.

For more information, contact Prata: 8920528755 and Gariyoshi: 8130925795
SPREAD THE WORD!