

RETHINKING IDENTITY:
INTERDISCIPLINARY
PERSPECTIVES ON BORDERS,
STATELESSNESS, AND SECURITY







ORGANISED BY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PACHHUNGA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

IN COLLABORATION WITH MIZORAM UNIVERSITY &

ZONET CABLE TV PVT. LTD.

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SEMINAR HALL
PACHHUNGA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
AIZAWL, MIZORAM



Concept Note

India shares deep historical and cultural relations with its neighbours. In fact, the British colonial India comprised present-day India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Pakistan. The colonial demarcation of boundaries was governed by administrative convenience giving little or no consideration to the historical and cultural identities of the people therein. This led to distinct groups of people scattered under different sovereign states.

The cordial relations independent India maintains with its neighbors are evident in its bilateral trade agreements, regional trade initiatives such as the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), the implementation of a free movement regime, and the Act East Policy, among other measures. These policies are determined by a complex interplay of historical, cultural, economic, and strategic considerations.

However, the past few years have noticeably witnessed political instability among India's immediate neighbours. For instance, the ongoing political crises in Myanmar and Bangladesh have resulted in a significant increase in the number of immigrants entering the Northeast Indian states of Mizoram, Manipur, Assam and others. Though India is not a signatory of the 1951 UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, due to historical and ethnic ties, as well as Constitutional principles and humanitarian considerations, these borderlands have become safe havens for cross-border migrants. This instability creates complex challenges for the borderlands, the ramifications of which are farreaching, impacting immigration trends, demographic changes, national security, economic development, citizenship issues, and social harmony.

Under this condition, it is imperative to rethink the complexities surrounding identity such as cross-border unity, ethnic ties, free movement regime, croos-border trade, immigration, and citizenship.

Keywords: Identity, Border, Refugee, Immigration, Statelessness, Citizenship





Call for Papers

The Department of Political Science, Pachhunga University College cordially research scholars and practitioners on any issues related to the following sub-themes:

- 1) Historical and Contemporary Approaches to Borders and Identity
- 2) Identity Politics and Its Influence on Cross-Border Relations
- 3) Migration and Immigration Patterns
- 4) Efforts of the Government to Handle the Refugee Crises
- 5) India's Laws and Policies: Legal Gaps and Policy Innovations
- 6) Role of Non-State Actors and Community Initiatives
- 7) Refugee Protection and Human Rights Considerations
- 8) Cross-Border Terrorism and Crime
- 9) Cross-Border Ethnic Relations and Unification Movements

Guidelines for Submission

- Abstract of the paper not exceeding 250 words with three to five keywords.
- Manuscripts in MS Word using Times New Roman font.
- Title of the paper should be put in bold letters with font size 14. Do not capitalise.
- For main text, use font size 12 with 1.5 Line Spacing. Justify alignment.
- Author's name, designation, affiliation/address, mobile number and email id must be included.
- Authors are requested to submit via email to the department's email: polscience.puc@gmail.com

Important Dates

Last date for submission of abstract : 31st January 2025 Last date for confirmation of participation : 3rd February 2025

by paper presenters

Travel & Accommodation

TA/DA will not be provided to the presenters/participants by the Organizing Committee.





Objectives of the Seminar

- 1) To foster knowledge sharing and inspire policy recommendations.
- 2) To provide a platform for scholars, policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders for a dialogue on the complex issues surrounding identity, borders and immigration in India's northeastern region.

Mode of Participation

The seminar will be conducted in a blended mode.





Registration

Registration fee to be paid by paper presenters after confirmation:

Research Scholar :₹200

Joint Paper :₹500

Faculty :₹500

For payment please scan the QR Code and share the payment reciept on polscience.puc@gmail.com



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