**Social Sciences in the Contemporary World: The Way Forward**

***1st Annual International Conference on Social Sciences***

November 8-10, 2023

Mizoram University, Aizawl, India

***Conference Website:*** [***www.mzu.edu.in/Blog***](http://www.mzu.edu.in/Blog)

**Call for Papers and Participation**

**Greetings**

Please find the call for abstracts for the 2023 International Conference on Social Sciences (ICSS), to be held on Nov. 8th-10th of November, 2023 in Aizawl, Mizoram, India. Find more information online at www.mzu.edu.in

**Abstracts are due on August 24, 2023.**

Abstracts / full papers are to be mailed to: [icssmzu@gmail.com](mailto:icssmzu@gmail.com)

**Important Dates and Deadlines for 2023 ICSS:**

Abstracts due: August 24, 2023

Notification of acceptance of paper abstract: August 30, 2023

Submission of full paper due: September 25, 2023

Presentation notification: After October 5, 2023

Invitation letters will be sent upon request: After September 20, 2023

**Social Sciences in the Contemporary World: The Way Forward**

Social Sciences are a distinct branch of academic discipline that study human society and social relationships, as well as the institutions and structures that shape them. Social Sciences examine the complexities of human behaviour, culture, and society. In the process, social scientists employ a range of methods, including quantitative and qualitative research. The disciplines and interdisciplinary fields constitute studies and professions such as History, Economics, Political Science, Psychology, Public Administration, Social Works, Anthropology and Sociology. These disciplines have their own specialised training, expertise, reward structures, associations, networks, and norms that reinforce distinctive professional identities.

Social Sciences have a long and resplendent history, dating back to the time of ancient civilisations such as Indian, Chinese, Greek and Roman. However, it was not until the Enlightenment period in the 18th century that Social Sciences began to be recognised as a separate field of study. The Enlightenment thinkers, such as Montesquieu, Rousseau and others, emphasised the importance of reason and scientific inquiry in understanding human behaviour and society. During the 19th century, several disciplines within the Social Sciences emerged, including Psychology, Public Administration, Sociology, Anthropology etc. After the 20th century, the Social Sciences continued to evolve and expand its horizon. The advent of new technologies, such as computers and the internet, allowed for more sophisticated data collection and analysis. This led to the emergence of new fields such as social network analysis and computational social science with a growing emphasis on interdisciplinary research. Scholars began to recognise that many social phenomena could not be fully understood from the perspective of a single discipline, and thenceforth collaborations transcended disciplinary boundaries. This gave rise to new fields such as cultural studies, which combined insights from Anthropology, Sociology, and Literary studies. In the 21st century, the Social Sciences continue to evolve and adapt to changing social, political, and technological contexts. Ethnographic research, action research, auto ethnography, bespoke research, translational sociology, lived experience, heterogeneous treatment effects (THE) bi- directional process and discursive practices and so on have become integral to the debates and informed research in social sciences.

A perceptible major trend which forced scholars to explore how global processes such as migration, trade, and communication are shaping social structures and cultural practices, is the increasing focus on globalisation and the interconnectedness of societies around the world. Scholars are exploring how factors such as race, gender, sexuality, and class shape social structures and experiences. This has led to a renewed interest in critical theory and post-colonial studies, which seek to understand power relations in the society and challenge dominant narratives.

In India there were twenty universities at the time of independence. By the early 1980s, the number rose to over two hundred. This was the result of a huge expansion in higher education directed and financed almost entirely by the union and state governments. In particular, there was a massive growth in social science teaching and research. In 1969, the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) was set up by the government to promote and coordinate advanced research in the social science disciplines. Over the next two decades, the ICSSR established a network of nearly twenty-five research institutes and regional centres across the country. In addition, the Indian Council of Historical Research was founded in 1972. As per the recent AISHE report, India has 1113 Universities of all varieties carrying out teaching and research. In India, education policies have been formulated from time to time to meet the needs and requirement of the society. Presently, the New Education Policy 2020 has been implemented by the Higher Education of India.

In conclusion, the growth and development of the Social Sciences has been shaped by a variety of factors, including technological developments, changing social contexts, and interdisciplinary collaboration. As we move into the 21st century, it is clear that the Social Sciences will continue to evolve and adapt in response to new challenges and opportunities. It is in this backdrop this conference is being organised with an aim to discuss, deliberate and critique the emerging shifts and dominant paradigms within the Social Sciences. The three-day event will comprise of keynote addresses, panel discussions, and interactive sessions

**Objectives**

The Conference's primary objective is to explore how the social sciences can be made more relevant and effective in addressing contemporary social issues. Specifically, the conference aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. To critically examine the current state of the social sciences and identify areas where they need to be revisited and re-evaluated.

2. To explore new approaches and methodologies that can be used to address contemporary social issues.

3. To identify ways in which the Social Sciences can be made more accessible and relevant to policymakers, practitioners, and the general public.

4. To forge greater collaboration between scholars, researchers, and practitioners from different fields within the social sciences.

5. To address the challenges confronting social science research and teaching in the country.

**Sub-Themes**:

The conference will focus on the following sub-themes:

1. **Theoretical and Methodological Issues**

2. **Interdisciplinary/transdisciplinary Collaborations in Social Sciences**

3. **Social Sciences and Public Policy**

4. **Social Justice, Empowerment, and Equity**

**5. Skill, Innovation, and Technology and Social Sciences**

**6. Social Sciences and New Education Policy**

**7. Research Infrastructure and Possibilities**

**8. Teaching and research of Social Sciences in North East India**

**Guidelines for Paper Submission**

1. Original papers based on theoretical or experimental works should be related to the

Conference themes.

1. Author(s) should mention their designation along with the institutional affiliation and contact details.
2. The paper should begin with title, short abstract and a list of keywords.
3. The Paper should be typed in MS Word, 12-point Times New Roman and 1.5 line spacing. The Abstract should be limited up to 350 words only and the full paper should be 10-12 pages. References should be in APA style.
4. Simultaneous submissions (papers already submitted to other conferences/journals) are not allowed.
5. The Plagiarism must not exceed the limit of 15% including References.
6. The organizing committee reserves the right to accept or reject the paper at their

dis­cretion.

1. Kindly send your Full-length paper to [icssmzu@gmail.com](mailto:icssmzu@gmail.com) Papers which would not adhere to the submission guidelines would be rejected.
2. Those who want to present their papers as well as those who want to attend the

con­ference need to register themselves.

1. The best paper Presentation award for each sub-theme shall be selected by the panel of experts.
2. Registration fees is Rs 1500 which is inclusive of tea and lunch during breaks for the conference three days.

12. Participants from outside India would be allowed to present their papers through

online mode.

Queries related to letters of invitation, visa applications, accommodations/registration are to be emailed to e-mail [tanpuiir@gmail.com](mailto:tanpuiir@gmail.com)  to the attention of:

Dr. Laltanpuii Ralte, Department of Public Administration, Mizoram University

Dr. B Lalzarliana, Department of Sociology, Mizoram University

**2023 ICSS Organising** **Committee:**

**Patron**

Prof. Debakar Chandra Deka, Vice Chancellor, Mizoram University

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Prof. Vanlalchhawna, Finance Officer, Mizoram University

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Prof. Zokaitluangi, Former Dean, SSS, MZU

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Prof. Lalneihzovi, Dean, School of Social Sciences, Mizoram University

**Co-Convener:**

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Mr. Lalhruailiana, Head i/c, Department of Sociology, Mizoram University

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Prof. Kottu Sekhar, Department of Social Work, Mizoram University.

Prof. Kishor Gaikwad, Department of History & Ethnography, Mizoram University.

**Registration Fee Payment/Bank Details**

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| **Beneficiary/Account Name** | **Dean, School of Social Sciences, MZU** |
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| IFSC Code | PUNB0154820 |
| MICR Code | 796024003 |