



University of Kashmir, Hazratbal, Srinagar-190006

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**Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar
in Collaboration with
Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi-110062**

Organizing a Two-Day National Seminar on the Eve of Indian Philosophers Day 2023

On

29th - 30th May-2023

"Contributions to Philosophical Thought from Kashmir"

CHIEF PATRON



Prof. (Dr.) Nilofer Khan

Honorable Vice-Chancellor,
University of Kashmir, Srinagar



PATRON



Dr. Nisar A. Mir

Registrar,
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Two-Day National Seminar
On the Eve of Indian Philosophers Day 2023



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Concept Note

Kashmir is known as a vibrant space for knowledge, spirituality, and mystic thought. Centered at the confluence of major religious systems, it emerged as a syncretic site for churnings in philosophical thought, poetry, aesthetics, architecture, music, etc. In its philosophical thought in particular, Kashmir has been a cauldron of philosophies spanning Buddhism, Trika Shaivism, and Kashmiri Sufism. In Kashmir's distinct syncretic cultural milieu, such philosophies and their confluence has seeped deep into mysticism, devotional practices, language and poetic forms. The familiarity of Kashmir with diversity of philosophical thoughts is known from a rich archive of historical and literary sources, which include Rājtarangini, IshvarapratyabhijñāKārika, Sarvadarshanasamgraha, etc. The region gave birth to a unique non-dualistic philosophy referred to as Pratyabhijñā Darshan or Philosophy of recognition. The founder of this philosophical tradition was Vasugupta and it was gradually expanded by Somananda, Bhaṭṭa Kallata, Utpaladeva, Abhinavagupta, and Kṣhemaraja. The fourteenth century Saint-poetess Lal Ded preached this liberated philosophy in vernacular Kashmiri with poetic quatrains called Vaakhs as medium. This tradition continued in the teachings and poetic verses of Kashmir's foremost Muslim Sufi saint, Sheikh Noor-ud-din Noorani, popularly known as Nund Reshi.

The aim of the present seminar is to bring into focus Kashmir's rich contribution in philosophy and mystic thought. Contributions are welcome from scholars working on Kashmir philosophy, history, and culture/society, across disciplines in humanities and social sciences.

Some of the indicative themes include:

- Biographies and Contributions of Philosophers and Mystics from Kashmir
- Trika Shaivism and Shaivite Scholars from Kashmir.
- Buddhist Philosophical Thought and Contributions from Kashmir
- Sufism and Mystic Thought from Kashmir
- Literary and Poetic Reflections of Kashmir's philosophical contributions
- Kashmir Arts and Aesthetics
- Syncretic Philosophies and Devotional and Sufi Practices

These themes are indicative, and the seminar organisers are open to contributions on other themes of relevance to Kashmir Philosophy and Mysticism.

Tabasum Firdous
Prof. (Dr.) Tabasum Firdous
Director & Convenor

Wahid
Dr. Wahid Nasaru
Coordinator