

CONCEPT NOTE

Today 'folk' means many things for many people, ranging from 'traditional' to 'rural' to 'popular', and many more. For some, it may mean as simple a concept as a mere 'way of life' while for others it may connote different worldviews, beliefs, and traditional knowledge systems belonging to different communities. Folk traditions familiarise us with local heritage and history, enrich present life patterns, and aid in the study of collective psyche of the people. But, sadly, changing socio-economic situations contribute to the marginalisation, complication, and re-shaping of the folk traditions everywhere. India, being a home to a wide and rich variety of folk forms and traditions, is no exception. It is in this context, a serious academic inquiry facilitating the appreciation of folk traditions and forms is the need of the hour. Fortunately, in the recent years the government and non-government agencies are increasingly being sensitive towards this cause.

In order to give impetus to the above cause, a two-day webinar is being organised by Department of English, JMI during 11th - 12th of March, 2022 to explore and celebrate the cultural and aesthetic dynamics of existing folk traditions in India. The conference hopes to bring together scholars, educationist, social scientists and performing artists to sustain an enriching dialogue.

