

A Two-Day International & Interdisciplinary Conference



on *New-Age Critical Posthumanities: Transdisciplinary Approaches to Post-Millennial Intellectual History*

10-11 September, 2022

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (IST)

Keynote Speaker

Prof. Deb Narayan Bandyopadhyay

Hon'ble V.C., Bankura University

Conveners

Dr. Subhadeep Paul,
Asst. Prof., Dept. of English, BKU
Sukhendu Das,
Asst. Prof., Dept. of English, BKU

Organised by

Interface

An Interdisciplinary Lecture & Research
Platform, Bankura University

Abstract Submission Deadline

31 August, 2022

Email- posthumanities.bkru@gmail.com

Interface; School of Literature, Language and Cultural Studies; and School of Social Sciences, Bankura University presents –

**A Two-Day International & Interdisciplinary Conference on:
“New-Age Critical Posthumanities: Transdisciplinary Approaches
to Post-Millennial Intellectual History”**

**[Chief Patron: Prof. Deb Narayan Bandopadhyay, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor,
Bankura University].**

(Conveners: Dr. Subhadeep Paul & Mr. Sukhendu Das)

The contemporary milieu is one of several ideational and ideological currents discovering and creating meaning in the junction of a critical intersectionality, where independent disciplines are individually and collectively seeking newer configurations to help mediate theory and praxis at virtually every level. The Humanities today has arrived at a complex junction where text and context are both being radically challenged, and subsequently overhauled from canonical verities of disciplinary domains and categorical knowledge systems. Posthumanism has challenged traditional academic configurations of epistemology, and the standard parameters and practices of what was conventionally understood as the quotidian materiality. This calls for a scathing analysis of the re-routed possibilities of theoretical, methodological and ethical paradigms of the Humanities in terms of its extension and/or subversion into the Posthumanities. As a critical umbrella signifier, Posthumanities is both situated as well as self-positing itself in the metaphilosophy of intersectionality, so as to understand what might be deemed as a new-age history of ideas. A techno-futurist ontology has accelerated the imperative to align with and perennially upgrade the understanding of the ‘posthuman condition’, especially since the first two decades of the new millennium. The foundational textuality of ‘the human’ has been rendered porous by a post-anthropocentric rejection of ‘species supremacism’ and ‘human exceptionalism’. Simon Susen therefore notes in ‘Reflections on the (Post-) Human Condition: Towards New Forms of Engagement with the World?’ that a new order of ‘species egalitarianism’ and ‘monistic vitalism’ has augmented a cross-fertilized line of enquiry, whereby the human realm discovers its ontological loci in terms of the critical confluence of zoe-, geo-, and techno-based dimensions”. The Human/ Robot binary collapses in the face of a techno-social engagement, as well as an ethico-existential quotient vis-à-vis the environment. Post-Enlightenment Manicheanism, expressing itself as the hegemonic imaginary of the west collapses, as we configure a post-dualistic understanding of the human/non-human divide. This calls for a strategic repositioning of spatio-temporal verities of planetary futures, and a holistic understanding of the multi-modal identity of transversality and the plurisignified dimensions of a posthumanized subjectivity.

This interdisciplinary conference seeks to address both major and tertiary issues in contemporary posthumanities that posit and explore intersectional positions and possibilities in the sub-themes mentioned below, but is, by no means, limited to them. The core aspiration is to overcome watertight epistemological disciplinary categories in this regard, and to illustrate how Posthumanities continually challenges and overcomes epistemic hierarchies, and makes itself evocative by enabling centrifugal prognoses across various knowledge-systems and semantic signifiers across global cultures and milieus.

1. Posthumanities and Ethics/Bio-Ethics/Biopolitics/(Post)Human Rights & Subjectivity
2. Posthumanities and A.I. Companionship
3. Posthumanism and Techno-Futurism/ A.I. and sentience
4. Posthumanism and its Engagement(s) with Philosophy/Metaphilosophical Concerns
5. Spiritual/Religious Posthumanities
6. Posthumanities and the History of Ideas
7. Posthumanism and the Orient: Critical Conjunctions
8. Critical Posthumanities and Critical Theory
9. Posthumanities & the Idea of Malaise (Post Covid-19)/The Virocene Epoch and Malignancy
10. Posthumanities and its encounter with the Non-Human/In-Human/Transhuman Agencies
11. Speculative Posthumanism: Eastern and Western Perspectives
12. Posthumanities and Computation/Alienology/Artificial Neural Networks & other Futurist Theories.
13. Posthumanism and Prosthetics/Neurotechnology
14. Feminist Posthumanities in the Anthropocene
15. Posthumanities and Post-environmentalism/Apocalypse/'the Dark side of the Digital'/End of the World theories.

Key Details:

1. Dates of the Conference: **10-11 September, 2022 (Saturday & Sunday)**
2. Abstract Submission Deadline: **31 August, 2022.**
3. Notification of Abstract Selection: **Within 3 September, 2022.**
4. Mailing ID for Abstract (150 Words) and Bio-note (75 words): **posthumanities.bkru@gmail.com**
5. Selected papers will be considered for an international publication (with ISBN) after double-blind peer review.

**Details of the Interface, Bankura University (An Interdisciplinary Research Platform)
Conference: -**

1. Dates of the Conference: 10-11 September, 2022 (Saturday and Sunday) 10AM-5PM.
2. Abstract Submission Deadline: 31 August, 2022.
3. Notification of Abstract Selection: Within 3 September, 2022.
4. Mailing ID for Abstract (150 Words) and Bio-note (75 Words):
posthumanities.bkru@gmail.com
5. Plenary Speakers: TBA.
6. Keynote Address: Prof. Deb Narayan Bandopadhyay, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Bankura University, and Chief Patron of the Conference.
7. Conveners: Dr. Subhadeep Paul, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, Bankura University, and Mr. Sukhendu Das, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, Bankura University.
8. Venue: Academic Block (Ground Floor). Bankura University, Main Campus (Beside NH 30), Bankura Block – II, P.O.- Purandarpur, Dist.- Bankura, West Bengal, India. PIN – 722 155.
9. Spot Registration Fees: 1500 INR (Includes a working breakfast, high tea and lunch on both days, a conference kit and a certification of paper-presentation/participation in print).
Queries regarding registration may be addressed to
posthumanities.bkru@gmail.com
10. Accommodation: Invited delegates will be stationed at the University Guest-House. Hotel accommodation will be provided to outstation candidates at nominal rates on prior request.
11. Publication Details: Papers selected after a rigorous process of double-blind peer review, Select papers may be considered for publication in an international edited volume/monograph for the book series “Posthumanities and Citizenship Futures” at Rowman & Littlefield [<https://rowman.com/Action/Series/ /LEXPCF>] or “Environmental Humanities Book Series” at TPLondon [<https://www.tplondon.com/ecohumanism/>]. **However, the sole discretion of the same shall rest with an anonymised Peer Board, who shall conduct a double-blind peer review and recommend the final selection of papers.**

12. Organizing Committee:

- i) Dr. Kaushik Ghosh, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Political Science, Bankura University.
- ii) Dr. Tanuka Roy Sinha, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Social Work, Bankura University.
- iii) Mr. Nirupam Hazra, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Social Work, Bankura University.
- iv) Dr. Sangeeta Basu, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Philosophy, Bankura University.
- v) Dr. Tista Das, Asst. Prof., Dept. of History, Bankura University.
- vi) Ms. Hasnuhenna, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Bengali, Bankura University.
- vii) Dr. Partha Ghosh, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Education, Bankura University.
- viii) Dr. Sangeeta Chatterjee, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Law, Bankura University.
- ix) Dr. Manji Bhadra, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Sanskrit, Bankura University.
- x) Dr. Fatik Murmu, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Santali, Bankura University.
- xi) Dr. Debabrata Biswas, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Physics, Bankura University.
- xii) Dr. Pavel Pal, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Mathematics, Bankura University.
- xiii) Dr. Abu Taher, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Chemistry, Bankura University.
- xiv) Krishnendu Seth, Officer-in-Charge, Jamini Roy Institute of Art and Culture & Puabagan Campus.

1. Finance Committee:

- i) Dr. Subhadeep Paul, Asst. Prof., Dept. of English, Bankura University.
- ii) Mr. Sukhendu Das, Asst. Prof., Dept. of English, Bankura University.

2. Advisory Committee:

- i) Prof. Jayanta Kr. Saha, Dean of the Faculties, Bankura University.
- ii) Prof. Subir Kr. Roy, Registrar, Bankura University.
- iii) Dr. Francesca Ferrando, Author & Adjunct Assistant Professor of Philosophy, NYU.
- iv) Dr. Debashish Banerji, Haridas Chaudhuri Professor of Indian Philosophies and Cultures and Doshi Professor of Asian Art at the California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco.
- v) Nikoleta Zampaki, Researcher at the Faculty of Philology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece. (Also Associate and Managing Editor at the *Journal of Ecohumanism*, TPLondon, UK.

3. Food and Logistics Committee:

- i) Dr. Kaushik Ghosh, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Political Science, Bankura University.
- ii) Mr. Sukhendu Das, Asst. Prof., Dept. of English, Bankura University.
- i) Dr. Subhadeep Paul, Asst. Prof., Dept. of English, Bankura University.

4. Reception Committee, Reception Committee and Helpdesk: TBA.

5. Compère:

- i. Jagpreet Kaur
- ii. Paulomi Banerjee

6. Flying Squad:

- i. Bishnu De, P.G. English, 3rd Sem, Dept. of English, Bankura University.
- ii. Amimon Islam, P.G. English, 3rd Sem, Dept. of English, Bankura University.

7. Valedictory & Vote of Thanks: TBA.