

Centre for Research in Posthumanities, Bankura University presents

A Two-Day International Conference on

“Thinking Other-Wise’: Posthumanism and Human-Animal Studies”

03-04 April, 2025 __ Bankura University

The official newsletter of the Centre for Research in Posthumanities, Bankura University



A Two-Day International Conference on

‘Thinking Other-Wise’: Posthumanism and Human-Animal Studies

03-04 April 2025 ** Hybrid Mode ** CRP, Bankura University





Chief Patron

Prof. Rup Kumar Barman
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Bankura University
VC(Authorized), Harichand Guruchand University
Former VC (Interim), Murshidabad University



Guest of Honour

Prof. Deb Narayan Bandyopadhyay
Hon'ble Founding Vice Chancellor (Former), BKU
Advisor, WBSCE, Govt. of W.B.
Chairperson, Steering Committee, WBCSC



Graham Harman
Philosopher & Distinguished Professor of Philosophy,
Southern California Institute of Architecture, LA
“Redrawing the Lines Between
Human and Animals”
03.04.2025 | 9 pm IST



Roberto Marchesini
Philosopher and Ethologist
Director of School of Human-Animal Interactions,
Center for the Study of Posthumanist Philosophy,
Bologna, Italy
“Animal Ontology”
03.04.2025 | 1:30 pm IST



Niki Young
Lecturer,
Department of Philosophy
University of Malta
“A Posthuman Reading of
Alphonso Lingis”
04.04.2025 | 1:30 pm IST



Susan McHugh
Professor and Chair of English
University of New England
NSW, Australia
“Posthumanism and
Human-Animal Studies”
04.04.2025 | 11:30 Am IST



Organised by
Centre for Research in Posthumanities
Bankura University
Convenor
Sukhendu Das,
Assistant Prof. of English,
Bankura University

In collaboration with
Entanglements: Journal of Posthumanities

A Landmark Event in Interdisciplinary Humanities

The Centre for Research in Posthumanities (CRP) at Bankura University proudly hosted a thought-provoking Two-Day International Conference on the theme “Thinking Other-Wise’: Posthumanism and Human-Animal Studies”. This unique academic gathering welcomed global and national scholars from over 7 countries to explore the philosophical, literary, ecological, and ethical challenges surrounding human-animal relationships in the Anthropocene.

The conference was a resounding success, marking a pivotal moment in the university’s commitment to advancing posthumanist discourse and fostering transdisciplinary research at the intersection of literature, philosophy, science, and animal studies.

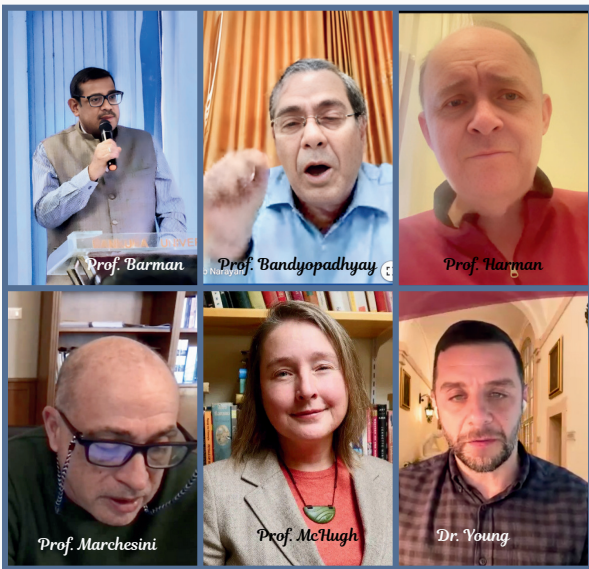
INAUGURAL CEREMONY: A CELEBRATION OF INTELLECTUAL FELLOWSHIP

The conference commenced with a warm inaugural ceremony that reflected the university’s ethos of ecological sensitivity. Guests were welcomed with plant saplings and traditional Uttariyas, symbolizing respect and environmental awareness.

Distinguished Guests & Opening Remarks:

- **Prof. (Dr.) Rup Kumar Barman**, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Bankura University – Chief Patron
- **Prof. Deb Narayan Bandyopadhyay**, Founding VC, BKU – Guest of Honour
- **Dr. Saurabh Dutta**, Registrar, Bankura University – Patron

The Convenor **Sukhendu Das** and Joint-Coordinator **Dr. Subhadeep Paul** offered a compelling vision for posthumanist inquiry in contemporary academia.



International Keynotes: Thinking Beyond the Human

The conference featured a distinguished lineup of invited international speakers, including philosophers, ethicists, and literary scholars.

Keynote Highlights:

- **Prof. Rup Kumar Barman** (India): Human-Animal Relationship: An Evolutionary Framework in Global Context
- **Prof. Deb Narayan Bandyopadhyay** (India): Posthumanism: Its Background in Medieval Christian Philosophy
- **Graham Harman** (USA): Redrawing the Lines Between Human and Animals
- **Roberto Marchesini** (Italy): Animal Ontology – Challenging deterministic views of animal consciousness
- **Niki Young** (Malta): A Posthuman Reading of Alphonso Lingis – Deconstructing human-centered philosophies
- **Susan McHugh** (USA): Human-Animal Studies and Posthumanism – Literary responses to the climate-animal nexus

These lectures were streamed live via Zoom and Google Meet, fostering real-time global participation.

Paper Presentations: A Rich Mosaic of Research

International Presenters Included:

- **Dr. Gianluigi Segalerba** (Portugal): Are Animals Persons or Resources?
- **CP Hertogh** (Netherlands): Zhuangzi and Animal Consciousness
- **Megan Lolley** (USA): Literary Collectives in Animal Fiction
- **Niñoval F. Pacaol** (Philippines): Entangled Futures and Population Crises
- **Dr. Nathan DeProspero** (USA): Animality and/as Alterity in (Post)Humanist Thought

These talks interrogated philosophical binaries and proposed visionary frameworks for human-animal coexistence.



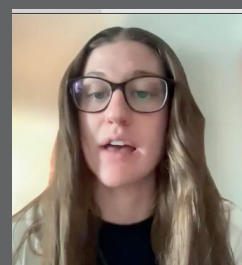
Dr. Gianluigi Segalerba



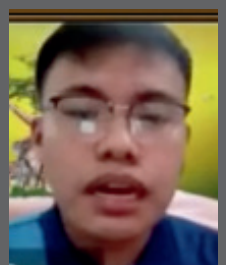
Dr. Nathan DeProspero



CP Hertogh



Megan Lolley



Dr. Niñoval F. Pacaol

April 2025



National Presenters: Critical Interventions from Across India

Notable Themes Included:

- Literary Posthumanism: Explorations of R.K. Narayan, Coetzee, Martel, Atwood, Ishiguro, and more
- Philosophy and Ethics: Debates on speciesism, bioethics, and sovereignty
- Cinematic and Visual Narratives: Analysis of Bhediya, Jallikattu, Zootopia, Princess Mononoke, and 777 Charlie
- Eco-Politics: Caste and animality in Fandry, capitalist ecologies in Haathi Mere Saathi
- Science and Speculative Fiction: CRISPR, AI, and posthuman subjectivity in genre literature

Sessions spanned across multiple rooms, with efficient technical coordination by student volunteers and faculty teams.

National Insights: Exploring the Local-Global Axis

Scholars from Indian institutions addressed subjects such as:

- Animal ethics in Indian films and folklore
- AI-art and animality
- Posthuman readings of R.K. Narayan, Amitav Ghosh, Sigrid Nunez
- Caste and species intersectionality
- Literary zoographies and ecofeminism



Local meets the Global in the Centre for Research in Posthumanities, Bankura University

Total Participants (Presenters, Chairs, Keynotes): 100+

Countries Represented: 7

Private Universities: 10+

Central / State Universities: 35+

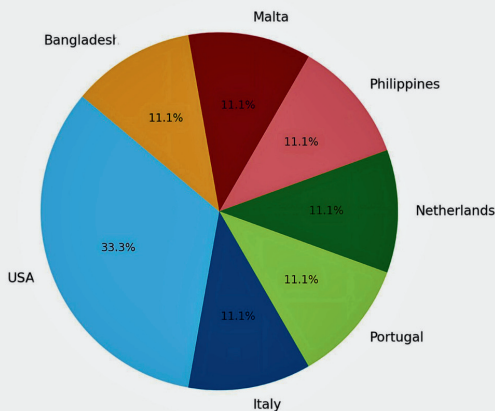
Colleges (Govt./Affiliated): 15+

Institutions Represented: Over 50

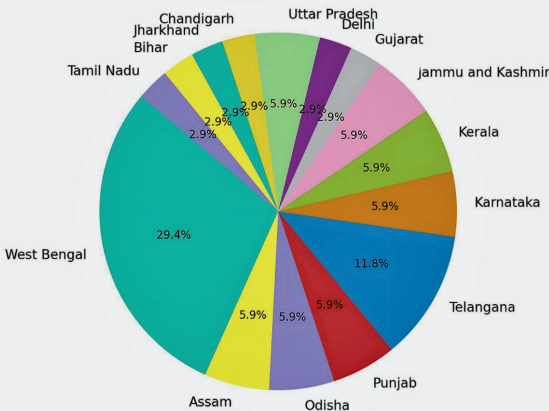
Indian States Represented: 13+

7 Countries and 16 States in India

International Participation by Country



National Participation by Indian State



National Representation (Indian States)

International Representation

USA – University of Idaho, University of South Carolina, University of New England, Southern California Institute of Architecture
Italy – Bologna (Roberto Marchesini)
Portugal – University of Coimbra
Netherlands – University of Amsterdam
Philippines – Eastern Visayas State University
Malta – University of Malta
Bangladesh – Southeast University, Dhaka

West Bengal – Bankura University, Jadavpur University, Raiganj University, WBSU, University of Burdwan, etc.

Assam – Nirmal Haloi College, Karbi Anglong

Odisha – Rajendra University, Fakir Mohan University

Punjab – Lovely Professional University, Desh Bhagat College

Telangana – Anurag University, B V Raju Institute of Technology, University of Hyderabad, EFLU

Karnataka – Bangalore University, Mount Carmel College

Kerala – University of Kerala, St. Thomas College, Mannanam

Bihar – B. R. Ambedkar Bihar University

Jammu and Kashmir – University of Jammu

Gujarat – IITRAM Ahmedabad

Maharashtra – Represented through discussion on cinematic works

Delhi – IIT Delhi

Uttar Pradesh – Aligarh Muslim University, University of Lucknow

Tamil Nadu – References to Bharatanatyam choreography

Chandigarh – Chandigarh University

Jharkhand – Ranchi University

International Participants (By Country)

- **USA** – 4 participant(s)
- Institutions: University of Idaho, University of South Carolina, Oberlin College, University of New England
- **Italy** – 1 participant(s)
- Institutions: Center for the Study of Posthumanist Philosophy, Bologna
- **Portugal** – 1 participant(s)
- Institutions: University of Coimbra
- **Netherlands** – 1 participant(s)
- Institutions: University of Amsterdam
- **Malta** – 1 participant(s)
- Institutions: University of Malta
- **Philippines** – 1 participant(s)
- Institutions: Eastern Visayas State University

National Participants (By State):

- **West Bengal - 35+ participant(s)**
- Institutions: Bankura University, Raiganj University, University of Burdwan, Jadavpur University, WBSU
- **Assam - 3 participant(s)**
- Institutions: Nirmal Haloi College, Government Model College (Deithor)
- **Kerala - 2 participant(s)**
- Institutions: University of Kerala, St. Thomas College
- **Uttar Pradesh - 3 participant(s)**
- Institutions: AMU, Mahindra University, University of Lucknow
- **Odisha - 3 participant(s)**
- Institutions: Fakir Mohan University, Rajendra University

- **Karnataka - 1 participant(s)**
- Institutions: Mount Carmel College
- **Gujarat - 1 participant(s)**
- Institutions: IITRAM, Ahmedabad
- **Jammu & Kashmir - 2 participant(s)**
- Institutions: University of Jammu
- **Delhi - 2 participant(s)**
- Institutions: IIT Delhi, Jamia Millia Islamia
- **Bihar - 1 participant(s)**
- Institutions: MDDM College
- **Chandigarh - 1 participant(s)**
- Institutions: Chandigarh University
- **Punjab - 2 participant(s)**
- Institutions: LPU, Desh Bhagat College
- **Telangana - 4 participant(s)**
- Institutions: Anurag University, EFLU, B V Raju Institute of Technology, University of Hyderabad

Awards & Round Table

The conference concluded with:

- Announcement of Best Paper Awards
- A Round Table Discussion on future editorial collaborations and research networks
- A closing Vote of Thanks by Dr. Kaushik Ghosh

Organizers' Note

Thanks to our patrons, invited speakers, organizing committees, student volunteers who managed logistics, tech support, and session assistance with remarkable professionalism, and participants for making this event a resounding success. We hope to see you again at future CRP events as we continue to “think other-wise.”

Looking Ahead & Stay Connected

The 2025 CRP Conference reaffirmed that rethinking human-animal boundaries is no longer just a niche academic concern – it is an ethical, ecological, and philosophical imperative.

CRP Coordinators: Sukhendu Das & Dr. Subhadeep Paul

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