

Centre for Tribal Folklore, Language & Literature

MISSION STATEMENT: To produce skilled scholars who can collect, preserve and disseminate the material of Tribal Folklore, Language and Literature keeping in view the vision of the university to create a world class university in Jharkhand

The Centre was established in 2013. The **objectives** of the centre are as follows:

- ❖ Collection, preservation and dissemination of Tribal Folklore, Language and Literature.
- ❖ To consolidate study with research, while acquiring new bodies of knowledge for the benefit of the discipline Tribal Folklore, Language & Literature and thereby supporting over all development.
- ❖ To provide opportunity for study Tribal Folklore, Language and Literature of this region of India.
- ❖ To make comparative study of folklore, language and literature of different tribal communities of Jharkhand.
- ❖ To encourage to study the comparative study of the Tribal Folklore, Language and Literature of this region and other parts of India and abroad.
- ❖ To endeavor to peer into the socio-cultural aspects of language to study how variations construct and are constructed by identity and culture.
- ❖ To safe guard and revitalizes the languages.
- ❖ To promote cross-disciplinary and cross-methodological discussion in the study of sociolinguistics, language endangerment, language maintenance, shift and revitalization and strived for genuine discussion and cross-pollination between various disciplines and research traditions, their theories, methods, and data, and between researchers of different languages across the globe.
- ❖ To promote research collaboration with both local and international body/institutions.
- ❖ To offer lifelong educational opportunities, particularly at the tertiary level, to the public.
- ❖ To establish a folk museum
- ❖ To create a digital archive.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME: MA and Ph.D.

FACULTY MEMBERS:

Dr. Rabindranath Sarma, MA (TU), Ph.D. (GU), Associate Professor and Head

Dr. M. Ramakrishnan, MA (MSU), M.Phil. (JNU), Ph.D. (JNU), Assistant Professor

Dr. Jisha C.K., MA (UC), M.Phil. (UC), Ph.D. (UC), Assistant Professor

Dr. T. Neishoning Koireng, MA (TU), Ph.D. (NEHU), Assistant Professor

Mr. Sudhanshu Shekhar, MA (JNU), Ph.D (pursuing JNU) Assistant Professor

Foreign Professors/scholars visited the Centre and interacted with the students in 2013:

1. Prof. Zoja S. Karanovic, University of Novi Sad, Serbia



2. Prof. Wajuppa Tossa, Mahasarakham University, Thailand



3. Dr. Prasong S. Saihong, Mahasarakham University, Thailand



4. Dr. Ng. Kok Keong, University of Malaya, Malaysia



5. Mr. Chen Hming Hsiang, Taipei, Taiwan



Foreign students/scholars visited the Centre and interacted with the students in 2013:

1. Miss Eunyoung Jang, Yeungnam University, South Korea



2. Mr. Narayan Neupane, Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
3. Ms. Sapana Sanjeevani, Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

COMMENTS OF OUR GUESTS (ACADEMIC VISITORS):

Prof. Ulo Valk (University of Tartu, Estonia):



I find it very important that your academic background & ethnic belonging is so diverse. I believe that this is the source of synergy and fruitful co-operation that we have so clearly seen during the excellent Winter School. Another resource of inspiration & success should be in the

vernacular cultures of the State of Jharkhand, so rich in knowledge and heritage. First time I came here a few years ago I was impressed by the peaceful campus like a cluster of Ashrams in an old forest. You are a rapidly growing university & I wish that you could always keep the peaceful atmosphere which is so important for creative academic work.

Dr. Wajuppa Tossa (Mahsarakham University, Thailand): The syllabi of the courses are comprehensive.

Prof. Uwe Skoda (Aarhus University, Denmark):



My first winter school at CUJ & in fact my first winter school at all! Was overwhelmed by the hospitality, the wonderful campus & the serene place. Looking forward to more academic interactions. A very vibrant centre in an area of an equally vibrant culture! The centre does tremendous work & I am looking forward to see more of the important academic input of the centre in future.

Pihla Maria Siim, Research Assistant (University of Tartu, Estonia):



The Campus is peaceful and clean, people are very friendly and helpful, they have made our stay here very pleasant. Other facilities are also good, and the new campus looks magnificent. I have an impression, that Dr. Rabindranath Sarma is doing great work leading the Centre for Tribal Folklore, Language & Literature. He has managed to gather young talented people to work at the department with him. I believe are doing a great job and future of the centre seems bright.

Prof. Madis Arukask (University of Tartu, Estonia):



I enjoyed very much the time what I spent in the campus of your university during the winter school. It is a nice place for work and studies. Also, I am looking forward to see the new complex of university when it is ready (hopefully soon). It must be something! The Centre for Tribal Folklore, Language & Literature makes its very valuable work on languages and cultures what are not too much known for the rest of the world. This is definitely the centre of excellence in many issues concerning the native peoples of Jharkhand and other regions. Please go on with your tasks!

Prof. Carlo A. Cubero (Tallinn University):



A beautiful campus. A lovely garden, most suitable for reflection and open discussion. Wish Estonia could have a campus like this. This surely is a field of rapid expansion. Programmes like these (are) important to promote local knowledge and its relevance to knowledge and humanity in general.

Prof. William (Bill) Westerman (Macaulay Honors College, City University of New York, USA):



Very impressed with the commitment to local students. They are enthusiastic about their programs here and there is a lot of potential for students to work together across disciplines...It is very exciting to see such a department that encourages native participation and I hope they will have a role in the decision making. I hope you will build connections with anthropology and other fields, because you have very talented people here.

Merili Metsvahi (University of Tartu, Estonia):



Nice people are working and studying here, many of them have lot of knowledge about their subject; the plans to build a new campus are great...The potential to develop are there. Until now you have done your best. The idea to have a department of Tribal [Folklore] is wonderful. You should keep and develop it.

Prof. Stefano Beggiora Ca'Foscari (University of Venice, Italy):



Beautiful campus very well organized good collaboration in the classroom and research between students and professors. To understand and preserve the tribal/ativasi/indigenous culture is the key to understand, (or atleast one important key to understand) the roots of Indian culture. I see a brilliant future for the centre.

Li Ansiqi (Sichuan University, China P.R):



Its amazing for me to see that students and professors got a big dream in their heart. That's very important to CUJ and India. The Centre for Tribal Folklore, Language & Literature in CUJ will be the center of excellence in Jharkhand, even India.

Reet Hiimae (University of Tartu, Estonia):



It was very nice to be here!...I hope that you can collect as much of the tribal folklore from the surrounding areas as possible, also I hope that you will develop international contacts.

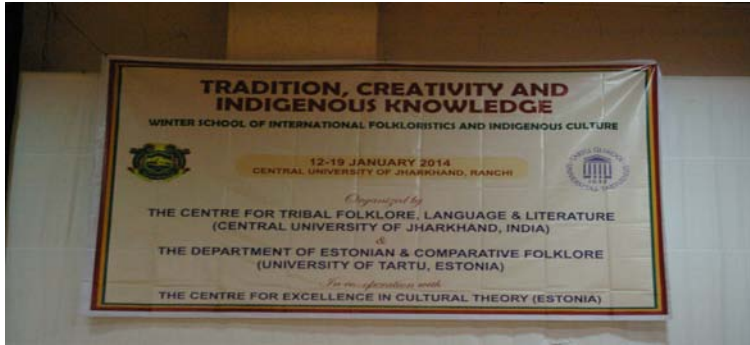
ACTIVITIES IN 2013:

1. The Centre has participated to organize three days' Tribal India Festival – AKHRA 2013 from October 28 – 30, 2013. **The objective of AKHRA2013 is to explore and unfold nuances of rich ethnic culture of India and other parts of the world before participating delegates, experts, surrounding society as well as the vast number of students of CUJ itself so as to sensitize them towards the relevance of the rich ethnic culture & their knowledge repository in the context of the present day world.** During the festival, the morning session was academic discussions and invited lectures on Tribal or ethnic related issues. The afternoon and evening sessions was devoted to cultural exchanges and presentations. Those include food festival, cuisine from different tribal cultures, folk games, storytelling, exhibition of handicrafts and books on tribal matters, dance performances, etc. In the evening, there was fashion show on traditional tribal attire and contemporary designs, musical performances both traditional as well as fusion of modern and traditional.

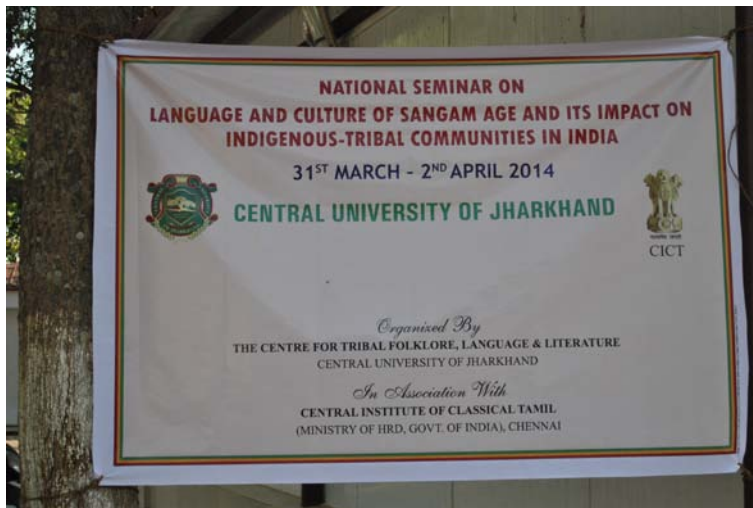


2. The Winter School of International Folkloristics ("**Tradition, Creativity and Indigenous Knowledge: Winter School of International Folkloristics and Indigenous Culture**") was

held from January 12 to 21, 2014. This was a collaborative programme with the Department of Estonian and Comparative Folklore, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia and the Centre of Excellence in Cultural Theory. This is the first International Winter School in Folkloristics at Central University of Jharkhand and in India as well.



3. The Centre for Tribal Folklore, Language and Literature, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi, was organizing a three-day National Seminar on the Language and Culture of Sangam Age and Its Impact on Indigenous-Tribal Communities in India from 31st March to 2nd April, 2014 at CUJ Campus, Brambe (Ranchi) in collaboration with the Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT), Chennai.



Contact for information:

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THANK YOU