



**INTERNATIONAL OFFICE**  
**UTKAL UNIVERSITY**  
**VANI VIHAR, BHUBANESWAR-4**  
[internationaloffice@utkaluniversity.ac.in](mailto:internationaloffice@utkaluniversity.ac.in)

## **WB-OHEPEE Sponsored**

### **NATIONAL SEMINAR**

**On**

## **Mother-tongue, Multilingualism and Internationalism**

**(27- 28 April 2023)**

To promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism International Mother Language Day is observed on 21 February at the behest of UNESCO. Mother Language Day is part of a broader initiative "to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world" as adopted by the UN General Assembly on 16 May 2007 in UN resolution 61/266, which also established 2008 as the International Year of Languages.

International Mother Language Day recognizes that languages and multilingualism can advance inclusion and the Sustainable Development Goals focus on leaving no one behind. Globally 40 percent of the population does not have access to an education in a language they speak or understand. But progress is being made in multilingual education with a growing understanding of its importance, particularly in early schooling, and more commitment to its development in public life. UNESCO, therefore, encourages and promotes multilingual education based on the mother tongue or first language. It is a type of education that begins in the language that the learner masters most and then gradually introduces other languages. This approach enables learners whose mother tongue is different from the language of instruction to bridge the gap between home and school, to discover the school environment in a familiar language, and thus, learn better.

NEP 2020 also emphasizes the role of the mother tongue. This suggests a language policy that improves the quality of curriculum, teaching, and learning in state education, as well as a policy that helps to position the role of multiple languages in a more positive and protected context. The role of global education is critical where there is a need for a language education policy that both respects mother tongue heritage and also prepares young people for a globalized world.

However, the promotion of Mother Tongue and Internationalism seems to be at loggerheads. Promoting one language at the cost of another is like raising only one crop while bio-diversity is needed for the survival of the planet. Similarly, language diversity is also needed for human survival, preservation, and promotion of cultures.

The two-day seminar proposes to discuss the complex matrix of Mother-Tongue, Multilingualism, and Internationalism and explore the centrality of language and culture to humanity both at present and in the future.

**The Seminar shall be examined though not limited through the following subthemes:**

- Mother-Tongue and Internationalism
- Multilingualism and Inclusion
- Native languages and global Challenges
- language , culture and Internationalism
- NEP 2020 and role of mother tongue

**Instructions for Submissions:**

- Word limit for abstracts is 500 words highlighting keywords.
- Full papers should be within 4000 to 5000 words.
- Papers may be sent to [uinternationaloffice@gmail.com](mailto:uinternationaloffice@gmail.com) ( Font Size 12, in Times New Roman)
- Papers are invited from academicians, administrators, policy makers, research scholars and students.
- **Contact for Paper submission:** Mrs. Lucy Sonali Hembram (8895727385)
- **Email for queries-** [uinternationaloffice@gmail.com](mailto:uinternationaloffice@gmail.com)

**Important Dates:**

- Last date for abstract submission – 20 April 2023
- Submission of full papers – 25 April , 2023
- **Dates of Seminar** -27-28 April 2023

**Chief Patron:**

Prof. Sabita Acharya

Vice Chancellor and Director, International office, Utkal University

**Convener:**

Prof. Asima Ranjan Parhi

Coordinator, International Office

**Keynote Speaker:**

Prof. Susheel Kumar Sharma

University of Allahabad, INDIA

**Coordinator**

Mrs. Lucy Sonali Hembram, Asst Coordinator, International office

**Organizing Committee:**

Dr. Seema Mallick , Co-coordinator, International Office

Dr. Swapna S Prabhu, Co-coordinator, International Office

Dr. Sanjaya Kumar Sarangi, Academic Coordinator. Utkal University

Mrs.Swarnima Shibani Pradhan, RA, International Office.

**Sponsored By:**

WB-OHEPEE, Utkal University

**Venue:** E-Library, Utkal University