



**International Seminar
on**

**Indigenous Science Development: Intersecting
Traditional Knowledge, scientific inquiry, and
socio-cultural Practices**

24-25 October, 2025

St. Edmund's College, Shillong

Organized by the Department of Social Work (UG) and the
Department of Environmental Science

(in collaboration with IQAC and SECAA, St. Edmund's College)



Sponsored by North Eastern Council, Shillong



Programme

Day 1

Date: 24th October, 2025

Registration: 8:30 am - 10 am

Morning tea: Room 9, 10, 11

Inaugural Programme Time: 9:30 am – 11: am Venue: Auditorium			
Time	Programme	Resource Person	Venue
9:30 am -11:00 am 9:30 am -9:32 am 9:32 am - 9:37 am 9:37 am -9:39 am 9:39 am - 9:42 am 9:42 am - 9:45 am 9:45 am - 9:50 am 9:50 am - 9:55 am 9:55 am - 10:15 am 10:15 am - 10:20 am 10:20 am - 10:40 am 10: 40 am - 10:45 am 10:45am -10:50 am	Host - National Anthem - Welcome remarks by Host - Watering of plants - Prayer - Song - Principal's Address - Introduction and felicitation of keynote speaker - Address by keynote speaker - Introduction and felicitation of keynote speaker - Address by keynote speaker - Summarization - Vote of thanks - College anthem	Ms. Edaneolla Kynta (Asst. Prof., Dept. of Social Work UG) Dr. Rosa M. Mawlong Students of the Department of Environmental Science Br. Sunil Britto Ms. Medha Patkar (Social Activist) Ms. Ridhima Pandey (Climate Activist) Ms. M. D. Khongwir (Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Science) Host	Auditorium
10:45 am - 11:00 am	Tea and snacks		

Technical Session 1			
Time: 11:00 am – 12:30 pm			
Venue: Auditorium, Shannon Hall, AV Room 2, AV Room 3			
Time	Paper presenters	Topic	Time allotted
Auditorium (Understanding Indigenous Science: Epistemologies, ontologies, methodologies, and worldviews; Knowledge Systems Dialogue: Comparing, contrasting, and bridging TK and modern scientific inquiry. Methodological pluralism; Socio-Cultural Embeddedness: The role of language, spirituality, arts, ceremony, and governance in knowledge systems. Intergenerational transmission)			
Chairperson: Dr. Samrat Adhikari (Associate Professor and Head, Department of Biotechnology)			
Judges: Dr. Jacinta I. Rapthap (Adult & Continuing Education, NEHU) Dr. Eros V. Kharshiing (Associate Professor, Department of Botany)			
Rapporteurs: Ms. Theadora War, Ms. Wanda. M. Kharbamon			
11:00 am - 11:10 am	Anugrah Pandi Lepcha	Man in Nature, and Nature in Man: Lepcha Epistemologies of Ecological Balance	10 mins
11: 10 am - 11: 20 am	Gyalmit Lepcha (online)	Recognising and Valuing Indigenous Knowledge Practised by Lepchas in Sikkim	10 mins
11:20 am - 11:30 am	Joseph Riamei (online)	The Intersection of Traditional Governance and Contemporary Challenges: The Pei System of the Rongmei Indigenous Tribe	10 mins
11:30 am - 11:40 am	Snigdhanjoly Kalita, Dr. Prateeti Barman (online)	The Socio-Cultural Embeddedness of Rural Women in Socio-Economic Development: A Study of Mishing Communities in Assam	10 mins
11:40 am - 11:50 am	Gautam Makwana, Prof H. Elizabeth (online)	Methodological Pluralism in Practice: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge and Western Science for Sustainable Environmental Solutions through Social Work and Sociological perspectives	10 mins
11:50 am - 11:55 am	Synthesizing	Key takeaway from students	5 mins
1 2:30 pm -1:00 pm	Lunch (Room 9, 10, 11)		
Shannon Hall (Indigenous Science in Practice: Case studies in health & wellness, agriculture & food sovereignty, biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, resource management, astronomy, engineering, etc.; Education and Curriculum Development: Integrating Indigenous Science into formal and informal learning environments)			
Chairperson: Dr. B. Manners (Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology)			
Judges: Shri H. H. Mohrmen (President, Society for Urban & Rural Empowerment) Dr. Omarlin Kyndiah (Associate Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry)			
Rapporteurs: Mr. Melvin S. Majaw, Mr. Ricky Basaiawmoit			
11:00 am - 11:10 am	Dr Yubaraj Sharma (online)	Precipitation in Garo Hills: Looking for footprints of climate change	10 mins
11: 10 am -11: 20 am	Asha Subba (online)	Eco-cultural Resilience: Linking Agriculture and Biodiversity through Limbu Indigenous Knowledge	10 mins
11:20 am - 11:30 am	Tamanna Shrieen	Healing bones, honouring roots: a brief study on the indigenous Bone healers of assam	10 mins
11:30 am-11:40 am	Dr. Satabdi Mondal (online)	Tribal medical practices are more indigenous and Scientific	10 mins
11:40 am- 11:50 am	Darisha Lyngdoh (offline)	Forests as spaces of Indigenous Knowledge System	10 mins
11:50 am- 12:00 pm	Karmes Khongsngi and Marvellous B. Lynser	Biodiversity, Forest and Water Conservation and Livelihood Enhancement through traditional knowledge and practices of the ‘War’ Community in betel leaf cultivation.	10 mins
12:00 pm-12:05 pm	Synthesizing	Key takeaway from students	5 mins
1 2:30 pm-1:00 pm	Lunch (Room 9, 10, 11)		

AV Room 2 (Indigenous Science in Practice: Case studies in health & wellness, agriculture & food sovereignty, biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, resource management, astronomy, engineering, etc.; Policy and Governance: Recognizing Indigenous Knowledge in decision-making processes at local, national, and international levels.)			
Chairperson: Ms. Rajni Khyriem (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Application)			
Judges: Dr. H. Tynsong (Scientist E/Director (S), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change) Dr. Wandaia Syngkon (Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work PG)			
Rapporteurs: Mr. Martius Rynjah, Mr. George K. Sunn			
11:00 am - 11:10 am	Dr. Daiahunlin Mawlong & Dr Arpita Singh	Role of Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council in Safeguarding Traditional Ecological Knowledge: A Legal Study	10 mins
11: 10 am -11: 20 am	Eugene Soreng	Road Infrastructure Projects and Their Impact on Community Climate Resilience: TheRole of Decolonial Social Work in Adivasi Areas of Sundargarh.	10 mins
11:20 am - 11:30 am	Dr. A. Amaladoss, Prostuti Das	Ecological Wisdom and the Sustainable Water Burial Rituals of Monpa Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh	10 mins
11:30 am- 11:40 am	Sweetty Queen Lyngdoh Mawlong, Lamshailang Gordon Blah	From Clan to Chiefdom Society: The Role of Jaid Bakhraw in the Evolution of Traditional Khasi Governance”	10 mins
11:40 am- 11:50 am	Nazi Ng., Prof Kanagaraj Easwaran	Interregional Migration and Living Conditions: The Case of Naga Migrant Workers in Chennai City	10 mins
11:50 am- 12:00 noon	Ms. Finley E. J. Syngai	Indigenous Knowledge and Environmental Conservation: Linking folklore to cave and forest conservation among the Khasis	10 mins
12:00 noon - 12:05 pm	Synthesizing	Key takeaway from students	5 mins
1 2:30 pm-1:00 pm	Lunch (Room 9, 10, 11)		
AV Room 3 (Indigenous Science in Practice: Case studies in health & wellness, agriculture & food sovereignty, biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, resource management, astronomy, engineering, etc.; Revitalization and Future Directions: Strategies for strengthening, protecting, and promoting the development of Indigenous Science for future generations.)			
Chairperson: Ms. Labet Phanbuh (Assistant Professor, Department of Economics)			
Judges: Dr. Rituparna Rajendra(Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Social Work PG) Dr. Jayanti Shadap (Associate Professor, Department of Political Science)			
Rapporteurs: Ms. Lorraine C. Massar, Ms. S. Sunila Chanu			
11:00 am - 11:10 am	Fatema Nargis Choudhury	Role of Indian Women as Custodians ofEcological Sustainability through Indigenous Knowledge	10 mins
11: 10 am -11: 20 am	Ebina Panmei	Indigenous Science in Practice: A Case Study of the Rongmei Naga Community in Manipur	10 mins
11:20 am - 11:30 am	Dr. Jayashree Sarma	Ancestral knowledge of India and self development goal 13-focus on climate action	10 mins
11:30 am- 11:40 am	Dawansaphi Shylla	Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) in ecological conservation through the lens of the Khasi tribe of Meghalaya, India.	10 mins
11:40 am- 11:50 am	Ankita Goswami (online)	Beyond Mobility: The socio cultural Landscape of Mora Bharalu Road	10 mins
11:50 am - 12:00 pm	Kangkana Sharma (online)	Studying Impact of Globalisation on Indigenous Knowledge System: Providing a Counter Thesis	10 mins
12:00 pm - 12:10 pm	Shubhankar Sarma	Nature participates in Rituals: An ethnographic assessment of Assamese Hindu traditions.	10 mins

12:10 pm - 12:15 pm	Synthesizing	Key takeaway from students	5 mins
1 2:30 pm-1:00 pm	Lunch (Room 9, 10, 11)		

Hand-on Activity Time: 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm Venue: Basketball court			
Time	Programme	Venue	Remarks
12:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Hands-on Activity	Basketball Court	SHGs or organizations who deals with livelihood using sustainable materials
Cultural Programme Time: 2:30 pm – 3: 30 pm Venue: Auditorium			
Host: Ms. Kermika Grace Nongkhlaw (BSW, 5th Semester)			
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Cultural Programme	Auditorium	Cultural troupes (Arts and Culture Department)
3:30 pm -4:30 pm	High tea	Auditorium	

-----End of Day 1-----

Day 2

Date: 25th October, 2025

Registration: 8:30 am - 10 am

Venue: Auditorium

Invited International talk &Panel Discussion Time: 9:30 am – 11:15 am Venue: Auditorium			
Time	Programme	Resource Person	Venue
9:30 am -10:10 am	Host	Mr. David Blah (Department of Psychology)	Auditorium
9:30 am - 9:50 am	Invited International Speakers	1. Jacqui Rémond (Lecturer, Australian Catholic University)	
9:50 am - 10:10 am		2. Sr. Elizabeth Carranza (Phillipines) Topic: Socio-cultural embeddedness	
10:10 am - 11:10 am	Panel Discussion Moderator	Mr. David. H. Blah (Department of Psychology) 1.Shri Tambor Lyngdoh (Founding Chairman, Ka synjuk ki Hima arliang wah umiam Mawphlang welfare society) 2.Mr. H. H. Mohrmen (President, Society for Urban and Rural Empowerment, Jowai) 3.Ms. Mayfereen Ryntathiang (President Grassroot organization) 4.Prof. S. Dkhar (Head, Department of Khasi, NEHU)	Auditorium
11:10 am - 11:15 am	Tea break		Room 9, 10, 11
NGO Mela Time: 11:15 am – 1:00 pm Venue: Basketball court			

Technical Session 1			
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Chairperson: Dr. Samrat Adhikari (Associate Professor and Head, Department of Biotechnology)			
Judges: Dr. Rusievan Shangplaing (Assistant Professor, Department of History, Synod College) Dr. Eros V. Kharshiing (Associate Professor, Department of Botany)			
Rapporteurs: Ms. Theadora War, Ms. Wanda. M. Kharbamon			
11:15 am - 11:25 am	Dr. Lavinia Mawlong	Transformation of traditional land and property regimes in the Khasi Hills of Meghalaya	10 mins
11: 25 am -11: 35 am	Dr. Deborah Daolagupu	Indigenous Healing Traditions and Ethnomedicine of Some Tribal Population in Dima Hasao District, Assam	10 mins
11:35 am - 11: 45 am	Dr. Bandita Teronpi	Dr. Dharamsing Teron’s ideas on spirituality connected to the Traditional Karbi Eco-Philosophy	
11:45 am- 11:55 am	Baiahunlang Dkhar, Doansa Ch. Marak, Larihun Jeengaph and Jasmine Therese Sawian	A Study on Home Gardens in Nongkrem, Meghalaya: An Important Reservoir of Medicinal Plants	10 mins
11:55 am - 12:05 am	H T Zuali (online)	An Analysis of Transgenerational Transmission of Traditional Proverbs among Undergraduate Students in Lunglei, Mizoram.	10 mins
12:05 am- 12:15 am	Dipshikha Boruah	Unveiling the Power of Ancient Indian Storytelling for Biodiversity Conservation: Exploring Traditional Narratives for a Sustainable Future	10 mins
12:15 am- 12:25 pm	Dr. Arpita Das	Indigenous Knowledge for Health and Well-being: Insights from the Chakma Community	10 mins
12:25 pm -12:30 pm	Synthesizing	Key takeaway from students	5 mins
12:30 pm-1:00 pm	Lunch (Room 9, 10, 11)		
Shannon Hall (Indigenous Science in Practice: Case studies in health & wellness, agriculture & food sovereignty, biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, resource management, astronomy, engineering, etc.; Education and Curriculum Development: Integrating Indigenous Science into formal and informal learning environments)			
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11:15 am - 11:25 am	Ms. Niksungla Changkiri	Eco-Cultural Dimensions of the Ao Nagas in Nagaland.	10 mins
11: 25 am -11: 35 am	Rev. Dr. S. Hayong	Redefining Indigenous Concept of Astronomy and its Relevance Today: Khasi Perspective	10 mins
11:35 am - 11: 45 am	Tapas Ranjan Chakraborty	Decoding Indigenous Knowledge: Scientific Insights from Traditional Practices in Medir Haor Wetland, Bangladesh	10 mins

11:45 am- 11:55 am	Maxstone Irom, Worthemla Keishing, Jasmine. T. Sawian & Larihun Jeengaph	Wuyawon: The Pink Orchid Ginger of Shingcha Village, Manipur - A Case Study on Eco-Tourism and Conservation of <i>Caulokaempferia secunda</i>	10 mins
11:55 am - 12:05 am	Abhishek Chakravarty and Abhinav Sankar Goswami	Contextually-Appropriate Curriculum for India's Northeast: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems into Contemporary Pedagogy	10 mins
12:05 am- 12:15 am	Farhan Sultana (online)	Education and Curriculum Development: integrating indigenous Science into formal and informal learning environments.	10 mins
12:15 am- 12:20 pm	Synthesizing	Key takeaway from students	5 mins
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11:15 am - 11:25 am	Pulak Basak	Reframing Digital Political Campaigns through Indigenous Knowledge Systems: Sustainability, Ethics, and Democratic Communication in India	10 mins
11: 25 am -11: 35 am	Shri Sambor Hynñiewta	Sanitation as a Human Right and Development Priority	10 mins
11:35 am - 11: 45 am	Lucky Dey (online)	Decolonizing Municipal Governance: Integrating Indigenous Advisory Bodies in Local Councils in Assam	10 mins
11:45 am- 11:55 am	Wailang Sumer, Emidaoopaya Sumer and Jasmine Therese Sawian	Traditional Practices and Customs in two selected Sacred Groves in Jowai, West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya	10 mins
11:55 am - 12:05 am	Wandaphira Pyngrope, Jasmine Therese Sawian, Iasylloklang Rynjah and Michelle D. Khongwir	A study of Broom Cultivation in Iewrynghep Village, Mawkyntse Block, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya	10 mins
12:05 am - 12:15 am	Synthesizing	Key takeaway from students	5 mins
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Rapporteurs: Ms. Lorraine C. Massar, Ms. S. Sunila Chanu, Ms. Georgina B. Kharlukhi			
11:15 am - 11:25 am	Nirmala Devi, Debashree Kalita	Indigenous knowledge based sustainable natural dyes and their applications	10 mins

11: 25 am -11: 35 am	Lakhimai Chetry	Cattle Culture among the Gorkhas: Traditional Ecological Knowledge and its Role in Dairy development in Assam.	10 mins
11:35 am - 11: 45 am	Souzatya Dutta & Satabdi Patgiri (online)	Epistemic Sovereignty in the Brahmaputra Valley: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge into Multi-Level Governance of Climate and Resource Justice	10 mins
11:45 am- 11:55 am	Dr. Pratap Kumar Ghorai (online)	Gramsabha: a local level decision making platform in India	10 mins
11:55 am - 12:05 am	Ms. Rinita Sinha, Ms. Shilpa Das, Ms. Afsana Arlin	Causes and consequences of flash flood: A study of Guwahati City.	10 mins
12:05 am- 12:15 am	Mr. Arjan Roy Rymbai	Temporal Meshworks: Reverse-Transmission and Youth Custodianship of Sacred Practices	10 mins
12:15 am- 12:25 pm	Synthesizing	Key takeaway from students	5 mins
12:30 pm -1:00 pm	Lunch (Room 9, 10, 11)		

Valedictory Programme Time: 1: 00 pm – 4:00 pm Venue: Auditorium			
Time	Programme	Resource Person	Venue
1:00 pm -2:00 pm	Host	Ms. Shekinah Challam (Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology)	Auditorium
1:00 pm -1:05 pm	-Summarization of the two-days seminar	Ms. L. Jeengaph (Co-convenor)	
1:05 pm -1:10 pm	-Principal's Address	Br. Sunil Britto	
1:10 pm -1:30 pm	-Distribution of Participation Certificates and Awards by Chief Guest	Shri Satinder Kumar Bhalla, Secretary, NEC, Shillong	
1:30 pm -1:35 pm	-Address by Chief guest	Shri Satinder Kumar Bhalla, Secretary, NEC, Shillong	
1:35 pm -1: 42 pm			
1:42 pm -1:47 pm	-Infotainment (Cultural Programme)	Students of the Department of Social work (UG)	
1:47 pm -1:52 pm	-Address by the IQAC Coordinator	Prof. Sumit Deb	
	-Vote of thanks	Ms. Audrey D. Dohling (Convenor)	
	-College anthem		
	-Photo Session		
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	High tea		Room 9, 10, 11

-----End of Day 2-----