

**21st APG MEET AND
INTERNATIONAL E- CONFERENCE
ON
AGRICULTURE, FOOD
SECURITY, HEALTH AND
WELLBEING
December 30-31, 2021**



organized by
**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY
KURUKSHETRA -136119
HARYANA, INDIA**



INVITATION

The 21st Association of Punjab Geographers (APG) Meet and International E-Conference is being hosted online by the Department of Geography, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, Haryana, India on December 30-31, 2021. The focal theme of the international conference is *Agriculture, Food Security, Health and Wellbeing*.

The conference, however, shall be inclusive in nature and provide an open platform to all the scholars of geography and allied disciplines to present the findings of their research in the technical sessions. Plenary lectures by distinguished scholars on the subjects of their specialization, group discussions on neglected areas of teaching and research in geography and professional issues of the discipline will also be organized during the conference.

All members of geography fraternity and researchers from allied disciplines are cordially invited to present their research papers and participate in the discussions and proceedings of the two-day conference.

THE FOCAL THEME

The origin of agriculture itself had been organically linked to the issue of providing food security to the pastoral societies that experienced growth and increase in population pressure on the land resources. The fundamental purpose of the modern agriculture continues to provide food of sufficient quantity and quality for feeding and nourishing the increasing world population sustainably so that all the people lead healthy and productive lives. The accessibility of food has become an essential focus of socio-political concern in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic induced loss of livelihood, unemployment and economic crisis. In general, agriculture all over the globe faces the crisis of multi-dimensional magnitude. The farmers are facing the dilemma of ecological sustainability of agriculture versus improvement in their economic lot. Corporatization of agriculture, increasing production cost, withdrawal of subsidies, lack of agricultural markets and storage facilities have posed the challenge of sustainability to this economic pursuit that provides livelihood to a large chunk of population in developing countries like India. The accessibility of the quality and nutritious food and its absorption are the key factors in sustenance of community health and wellbeing.

India has come a long way in terms of food production and agricultural development since independence. It is self-sufficient in production of cereals, milk, fruits and vegetables. But production of pulses and oilseeds is not sufficient to meet the domestic needs. Furthermore, the accessibility of food is a serious issue for one-third of population. The economic disruption caused by COVID-19 has pushed a sizeable section of population below poverty line and at the brink of food insecurity. Consequently, the Government of India had to provide free food grains to such people through public distribution system. Though the country has shown some improvement in nutritional status of the people in the present century, fall in its rank in global hunger index in the world during recent period is a big cause of concern.

SUB-THEMES

- COVID-19 and Food Production Systems
- Crop Diversification and Agricultural Sustainability
- Agricultural Infrastructure and Marketing
- Agricultural Crisis and Farmers' Suicides
- Sustainability of Agricultural Systems
- Natural Resource Management and Food Security
- COVID-19 and Food Accessibility
- Climate Change and Food Security
- Horticultural Development and Nutritional Security
- Gender Dimensions in Access to Food

- Organic Farming
- Health and Nutrition
- Rural Livelihood and Wellbeing

Besides above mentioned themes and sub-themes, the papers would be accepted for presentation on the topics related to all the sub-fields of geography and its methodological tools and philosophy.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT

Participants intending to present papers or posters are required to send the abstract (not exceeding 300 words) to the Convener on the email apgmeet21@gmail.com by December 20, 2021. The young scholars sending abstract to participate in the 'Young Geographer Award' and posters for 'Promising Geographer Award' should mention 'Abstract for competition'. Information about acceptance of paper will be intimated by December 26, 2021 through email. The abstract of only the registered participants will be included in the Volume of Abstracts. Abstract must be written in English and MS Word in normal, Times New Roman and Font in Size 12. Title should be clear and preferably within 15 words. The author's name, affiliation and e-mail ID should be placed below the title. The abstract must be clearly drafted in the sequence, statement of the problem, objectives, methodology and findings.

Dr. Saminderjit Singh Memorial Young Geographer Award

Original research papers, along with bio-data of the authors who have done Masters' in Geography and have not attained the age of 32 years, are invited from all over India and SAARC countries for the Young Geographer Award competition. A soft copy of the paper prepared according to the guidelines for the authors of 'Punjab Geographer' should be submitted in English to Dr. B.R. Thakur, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, H. P. University, Shimla (E-mail: brthakur53@gmail.com, Mob: 09418065518), with a copy to Dr. Lakhvir Singh Gill, General Secretary, Association of Punjab Geographers (E-mail: generalsecretaryapg@gmail.com Mob: 9814928741). The name of the author and department should not be mentioned on the paper, but in the covering letter, to keep secrecy. Evaluation and competition will take place only if there are six participants atleast. The paper must accompany a proof for the age and a certificate about the originality of the paper. The winner will be awarded a cash prize of Rs. 3000/- and first runner up with a cash prize of Rs. 2000/- along with certificates. The Award Money will be adjusted towards membership if the participant is not a member of the APG. The papers received later than December 20, 2021 will not be considered for evaluation. It is mandatory on the part of the participant to submit the certificate of date of birth and Masters' degree in Geography at the time of submission of the paper to the coordinator. For detailed rules and research paper format, please visit: www.apgorg.org.

Prof. B. Hema Malini Promising Geographer Award

Under this award, Poster Presentation Competition is organized on the themes of the conference. Young Geographers, who have done Masters' in Geography and have not attained the age of 28 years, are invited from all over India and SAARC countries for the Promising Geographer Award competition. The aspirants of this award shall submit soft copies of their original posters along with bio-data in English to Coordinator of this award, Dr. Vishwa B.S. Chandel, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh, (E-mail: vishwa.geoinvader@gmail.com. Mob: +91-9872833637), with a copy to Dr. Lakhvir Singh Gill, General Secretary, Association of Punjab Geographers (E-mail: generalsecretaryapg@gmail.com Mob: 9814928741). The winner will be awarded with a cash award of Rs. 3000/- the first runner-up

Rs. 2000/- and the second runner-up Rs. 1000/- respectively, along with certificates. The posters received later than December 20, 2021 will not be considered for evaluation. It is mandatory on the part of the participant to submit the certificate of date of birth and Masters' degree in Geography at the time of submission of the poster to the coordinator. For detailed rules and guidelines, please visit www.apgorg.org.

KURUKSHETRA

Spirituality is embedded in the land, water and air of Kurukshetra. It is revered as a place of historical and religious significance where Lord Krishna is believed to have preached the philosophy of karma enshrined in the Bhagwad Geeta during Mahabharata battle. It is because of the association of this sacred place with the triumph of good over evil, it has been described as Dharamshetra (field of righteousness) in the Bhagwad Geeta. Kurukshetra refers to shetra or area lying between the two holy rivers, Saraswati in the north and Drishadvati in the south. There are evidences that Buddha visited this place and delivered discourses. Thanesar town in Kurukshetra which was earlier called Sthaneswar meaning 'Place of God' was the Capital of Emperor Harsha Vardhan.

KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY

Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, is a NAAC accredited 'A+' Grade institute of higher education. Situated on the west bank of Braham Sarovar, the campus of the University is a picturesque landscape spreading over an area of 425 acres. The foundation stone of Kurukshetra University was laid by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India on January 11, 1957. The University which was initially a unitary institution with a focus on Sanskrit and Indic Studies, developed into a mega multi-faculty institution. There are 10 Faculties comprising 47 Departments/Institutes which, together, run 175 courses. The University has the air-conditioned Jawaharlal Nehru Central library, with a seating capacity of about 1000 scholars at a time. Entire campus has free access to internet through Wi-Fi internet connection. It provides teachers and students access to books, journals and other e-resources. The University campus has been rated as one of the most beautiful campus in India. The most remarkable feature of the campus is the seamless interconnection between the natural and the built environment.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

The Department of Geography was established at the UG level in 1963 under the Faculty of Sciences of the University. It was elevated to PG level in 1967. At present, the Department offers two post-graduate and research courses, M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees. It has emerged as a leading academic centre of geographical studies in northern India. The Department is known for pioneering work in the field of Agricultural Geography. However, the faculty members are pursuing their academic interest in various other fields, i.e. Urban and Population Studies, Environment, Regional Development and Planning, Health Geography, Land and Water Resource Management. The Department have RS and GIS laboratories, equipped with software used for image processing and digital mapping. The researchers, both students and teachers, make liberal use of geo-spatial technology and statistical techniques for the analysis of geographical data.

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Registration Form

There is no registration fee for participation. However, one has to register for the event by filling the required details as per google form link given below:

<https://forms.gle/e7TPh12q7zYhQqWV6>

Important Dates

Submission of Abstract:	December 20, 2021
Intimation of Acceptance of Abstract:	December 26, 2021
Registration through google link upto:	December 28, 2021

Address for Correspondence

Prof. Omvir Singh
Department of Geography
Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra-136119
Haryana, India
Phone No. +91-9467054590
Email: apgmeet21@gmail.com

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APG Membership Fee

Student Annual	Rs. 100
Individual Annual	Rs. 350
Individual Life Member	Rs. 2500
Institutional Annual	Rs. 350
Institutional Life Member	Rs. 12000