

CALL FOR PAPERS 2022:

The Department of English in collaboration with Department of Sanskrit, Shri Bhagwandas Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Haridwar are delighted to announce a call for papers for the **Webinar on “Mahabharata: The Epic and the Nation”** to be held on 30-31 May 2022.

Concept Note

Mahabharata is a long, narrative poem that chronicles the history of the Indian people within the context of a divine struggle between good and evil. Mahabharata constitutes the solid and enduring foundation of age long and magnificent edifice of Indian culture and civilization. The epic represents the ancient history not only of India but of mankind. It is the accumulation of all knowledge and experience relevant to mankind. *Mahabharata* depicts India as a single nation. Sri Aurobindo rightly observed that *Mahabharata* is not only the story of the Bharatas, the epic of an early event which had become a national tradition but on a vast scale the epic of the soul and religious and ethical mind and social and political ideals and culture and life of India. The epic throws light on all the aspects of Indian society and culture- family, kinship, lineage, inheritance, political structure, ethics, morality, dharma, art and power relations. The epic ties together discourse on *niti*, *yoga*, *dharma* and *philosophy* of Indian society. Mahabharata is the creation and expression not of a single individual mind, but of the mind of a nation. The shloka in the great epic depicts its scale and scope quite effectively. धर्मे च अर्थे च कामे च मोक्षे च भरतर्षभरू द्य यदिहास्ति तदन्यत्र। यत्रेहास्ति न तत् क्वचित्॥ (Whatever of *dharma*, *artha*, *kama* and *moksha* exist in this world, exist in Mahabharata, and what is not in the epic, is not found elsewhere either.)

Throughout India's history, Mahabharata has continued to be of central cultural and religious significance. In order to shed new light on Mahabharata itself, the seminar proposes to demonstrate how the epic narrates the nation and outlines the contemporary issues. The seminar provides as platform for presentation on topics related to the following sub-themes:

1. Creative response to Mahabharata
2. Art of narration
3. Issues of *dharma*
4. Role of Women
5. Characters as symbols
6. Ethical dilemmas
7. *Lokasangraha* (Welfare of the society)
8. Tales as constitution of society.

9. Polity
10. Philosophy
11. Conflict
12. Living traditions of Mahabharata
13. Mahabharata as *Itihasa*
14. Legends and Myths

We accept abstract submissions for full papers in English or Hindi languages.
We look forward to hearing from you.

Submission Deadlines:

Abstract Submission	150-200 words	12 th May 2022
Full Paper Submission	2000-5000 words	28 th May 2022
PPT Presentation (IF ANY)	12-24 slides	29 th May 2022

- Seminar Organizing Committee, Dept of English and Dept of Sanskrit, Shri Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Haridwar

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