



St. Claret College

AUTONOMOUS | BENGALURU

NAAC A+ Accredited | AICTE Approved | Affiliated to Bangalore University

NURTURING VALUES AND EXCELLENCE

M.E.S. Ring Road, Jalahalli, Bengaluru - 560 013.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Presents



LUMOS

CLARET ENGLISH
CONFERENCE

2026

**Literature and Social Justice:
Narratives of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

A One – Day National Conference for UG and PG English Students.

February 24, 2026

Venue: Conference Hall, Annexe Block



About St. Claret College

St. Claret College, Autonomous (SCC), established in 2005 and NAAC accredited with an A+ grade is a premier institution managed by the Claretian Society for Integral Human Development, a part of the international Missionary Congregation of Claretians. The Claretians oversee two universities and more than 150 educational institutions across 70 countries. SCC is committed to providing holistic and quality higher education, inspired by the spiritual legacy of its patron, St. Anthony Mary Claret, and rooted in the robust Christian intellectual tradition. The college aims to transform students into enlightened leaders and networkers who contribute to a civilization of love and harmony.

The Department of English

The Department of English, as a part of the faculty of Humanities, was established with the inception of the College in 2005-06 and is oriented towards enriching the university curriculum, leading to enhancement of teaching methodologies and promoting research. The Department strives to integrate the values of old-world scholarship with the vibrancy of the present. The Department has also undertaken several activities with a view to inculcate sound reading habit which is a prerequisite to sensitizing the impressionable minds of students to language, literature and culture.

Context of Claret Conference 2026

Literature and Social Justice: Narratives of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The idea of Social Justice stands as the central principle of this conference. It represents the universal and continuing struggle for equity, dignity, and recognition in a world marked by deep structural inequalities. This vision of justice calls for reflection on the enduring systems of oppression such as caste, class, gender, sexuality, and religion, as well as on the new social, political, ecological, and technological challenges that shape the twenty-first century.

In the Indian context, justice is closely connected to caste exclusion, class inequality, and the marginalization of Indigenous and Adivasi communities. Literature serves as a space for resistance and recovery, where Dalit, regional, and Indigenous voices question dominant power structures and imagine communities of equality and belonging. Feminist, queer, and intersectional writings examine patriarchy and narrow ideas of identity while promoting inclusive representation. Ecocritical and environmental narratives reveal how the climate crisis intensifies inequality and question the human-centered idea of progress. Through these varied concerns related to identity, ecology, and access, literature continues to shape ideas of human rights and strengthen the pursuit of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

To address this evolving call for justice, the conference adopts a broad understanding of Literature. It recognizes literary practice as a dynamic field that includes many forms of creative and cultural expression. The literary text today extends beyond the printed page to include visual, oral, performative, cinematic, and digital works. This understanding encourages scholars to explore both traditional and emerging forms of storytelling in order to study how they record, critique, and reimagine social realities in local and global contexts.

Organized by the Department of English at St. Claret College (Autonomous), Lumos 2026 provides an international platform for scholars, researchers, and students to explore how literature and related media engage with the principles of justice, equity, and representation. The conference welcomes papers that examine the relationship between

literature, culture, and social justice across diverse creative forms, with special attention to how literary and cultural practices in India and across the world continue to shape the conversation on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the present age.

Themes

(illustrative, not restrictive)

Gender and Sexuality

- Feminist reinterpretations of myth, history, and nationhood
- Queer narratives of identity and belonging
- Intersectional approaches linking gender with caste, class, and race
- Women's life writing as acts of resistance and representation
- Ecofeminism and the ethics of care in literary and cultural studies

Caste and Indigenous Inequalities

- Dalit and subaltern writings challenging social hierarchy
- Indigenous and Adivasi storytelling as cultural and ecological knowledge
- Oral traditions, folklore, and community narratives of identity and survival
- Regional and vernacular literatures as counter-discourses to dominant canons
- Translation, language, and the politics of representing marginalized voices

Class, Migration, and Global Justice

- Working-class fiction and narratives of labour and inequality
- Refugee, migrant, and diaspora literatures of home and belonging
- Partition and border writings as archives of displacement and trauma
- Transnational solidarities and Global South perspectives on justice
- Literature as advocacy and activism across global contexts connect art with action and reform.

The Body and Embodied Inequality

- The body as a site of identity, power, and resistance
- Disability and difference in literature and performance
- Caste-marked, gendered, and racialized bodies in representation
- Narratives of pain, illness, and care in social and aesthetic contexts
- Mental health, emotion, and empathy in embodied storytelling

Climate, Ecology, and Environment

- Climate fiction and ecological imagination in world literatures
- Environmental justice and the ethics of coexistence
- Indigenous ecological epistemologies and sustainability narratives
- Ecofeminism and intersectional approaches to the environment
- Nonhuman, posthuman, and multispecies perspectives in literature

Medium, Technology, and Creativity

- Digital storytelling, interactive media, and participatory authorship
- Cinema, performance, and adaptation as literary reinterpretation
- Digital Humanities: archives, computational reading, and new methods
- AI-generated and algorithmic literature as creative practice
- Posthuman perspectives, virtual embodiment, and techno-poetics

Guidelines for Paper Presentation

- The paper should be in MS Word format, Times New Roman, 12 font size with 1.25 spacing and 1.0-inch margin on all sides.
- All papers must be sent to lumos@claretcollage.edu.in
- The paper must have the name of the author(s), affiliation of the author(s), and communication address with contact number and e-mail id.
- Paper should have a title and an abstract not exceeding 300 words, (Italics, Bold, 10 Point) keywords 4-5.
- The length of the paper should not exceed 3000 words including all references, tables and figures.
- Authors are expected to cite all references in MLA-8 format only.
- The maximum number of authors allowed per paper is two. Each author has to register separately.
- It is mandatory that all the paper presenters from Bengaluru must come to the venue of the conference and present it offline. Participants from outside Bengaluru can present virtually if they wish to do so.
- The research paper needs to be the original work of the author(s). They should be exclusively written for the conference and should not have been published or sent for publication elsewhere.
- Softcopy of abstract with full papers should carry the presentation in PowerPoint format (Maximum of 10 slides) along with hard copy of the full paper on the day of the conference.
- The time limit for the presentation for each paper is 10 mins. (8 Mins (actual presentation) & 2 mins (Q & A)).

Best Paper Award

Best Paper Award is given to that one paper which brings new critical perspectives to the field in terms of conceptual development or methods. To be eligible for this award, the paper must be submitted before February 15, 2026 and should be presented at the Conference -2026.

Best Paper UG – Rs 3,000/-

Best Paper PG – Rs 3,000/-

Important Dates

Last date for Abstract submission: **January 31, 2026**

Last date for Full paper submission: **February 15, 2026**

Papers can be presented online. The conference will be in hybrid mode

Review and Feedback: Within a week upon submission.

Paper presenters and participants will receive **Certificates**.

Fee for Participation & Presentation

UG and PG STUDENTS (Participation only) : Rs. 100

UG and PG STUDENTS (Participation & Presentation) : Rs. 300

Publication fee (Additional) : Rs. 1000

Selected papers will be compiled and published as a book with an ISBN.

Patrons:

Rev. Dr. Thomas Thennadiyil, Principal

Rev. Fr. Joseph S., Vice-Principal

Conference Convenor

Ms. Angela Jean Mary

(HOD, Department of Humanities)

Registration Link:



<https://forms.gle/hQWqBCwGL8ozm5cp8>

Conference Coordinators

Mr. Pruthvi Bharadwaj K. V. - 9482082057

Asst. Prof. Dept. of English

Ms. Preethi Jose - 6361473992

Asst. Prof. Dept. of English

Conference Core Committee

Ms. Nice Aravind K. A.

Mr. Sachin Mundakkal

Dr. Ashok Jacob Mathews

Mr. Vineeth R.

Ms. Suha C.

Ms. Angelin Roja A.

Ms. Ann Elizabeth George

Ms. Athira C.

Ms. Simran Parveen

Dr. Guneeta Kaur Gill

Mr. Roshan Honest Raj

Mr. Jose Joseph

Student Co-ordinators

Ms. Flora - 9606809697

Mr. Yakshith - 6363997237

Ms. Jhanavi - 6363452231



Account Details

Principal, St. Claret College

0127053000022302

SIBL0000127

Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru - 22



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MES Ring Road, 5th Cross, Jalahalli, Bengaluru - 560 013, India.

Tel: +91 80 23454755, Mobile: +91 9620912639, 6361718834

www.claretcollege.edu.in