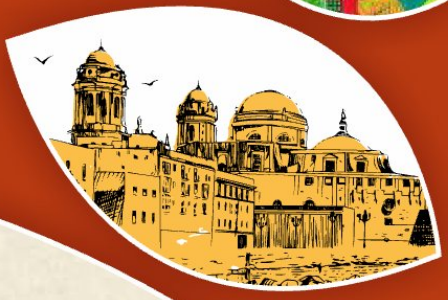
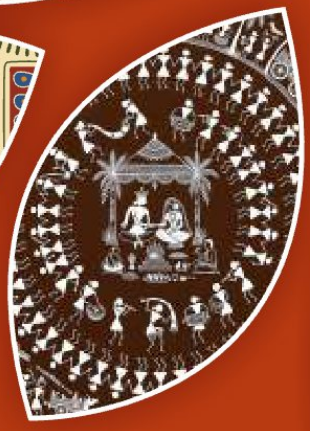
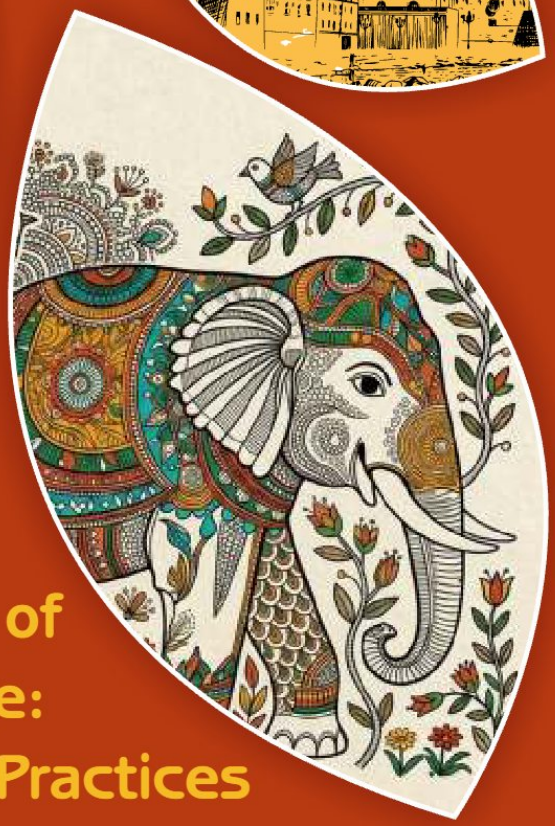






National Webinar on

Sustainable Management of Tribal Culture and Heritage: Perspective, Policies and Practices

on

November 23 - 24, 2026

The Theme of the Webinar

Tribal culture and heritage constitute a vibrant and essential component of India's diverse identity. The myriad tribal communities across the nation possess a rich repository of traditional knowledge, oral literature, art, craft, and customary governance systems. However, rapid globalisation, assimilation, and main streaming present significant challenges to the preservation of their intangible and tangible cultural heritage.

The recent emphasis on inclusive policies, rural development and sustainable tourism offers a paradigm shift in addressing these challenges. The present National Webinar aims to focus on the sustainable management of tribal culture and heritage.

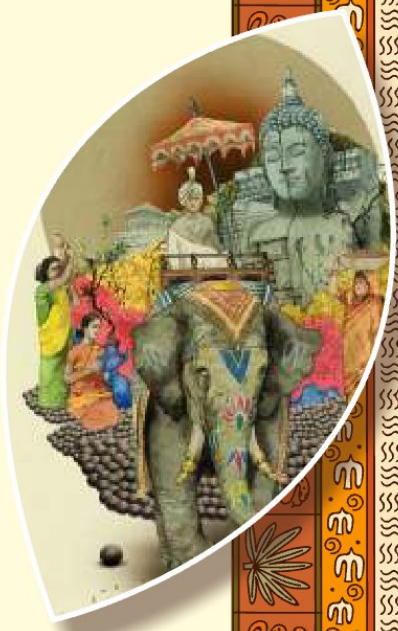
It aims to evaluate existing perspectives, policies, and practices to foster an ecosystem where tribal heritage is not only preserved but also sustainably integrated to empower tribal livelihoods, primarily through community-based and responsible tourism.

Webinar Potential and Challenges

The integration of tribal heritage into sustainable tourism models has been prioritised through various government initiatives, including the promotion of rural tourism, tribal circuits and geographical indication (GI) tagging for indigenous crafts. However, there is a significant challenge in mitigating the commodification of sacred rituals, safeguarding intellectual property and ensuring that the economic benefits reach grassroots communities.

Sustainability of these tourism practices is also a challenge. The development of physical and digital infrastructure in tribal areas must be meticulously planned to ensure cultural sensitivity. There are other challenges, such as conserving local ecological wisdom and traditional governance.

Addressing these challenges through robust policy frameworks and ethical practices will ensure sustainable livelihoods for tribal populations while preserving their authentic heritage.



Significance of the Webinar

The webinar will help bring historians, anthropologists, sociologists, policymakers, legal experts, along with researchers and practitioners in tourism academia and industry, under a common platform.

It will initiate and enable discussion and evolve certain conclusions regarding the possibilities and challenges in the sustainable management of tribal heritage. The Webinar has two essential dimensions: academic and applied.

The Webinar outcomes will certainly address sustainable development issues of tribal communities and the role of tourism as a catalyst for cultural preservation.

Major Objectives

- Discuss the perspectives, epistemologies, and cultural identity of tribal communities.
- Discuss the potential of the tourism industry in the livelihoods of tribal people.
- Focus on the role of the Indian Constitution and the Government in the preservation of tribal heritage.
- Focus on the potential of indigenous tourism, rural tourism, and ethno-tourism in tribal belts.
- Discuss the preservation of tribal culture and heritage through tourism.
- Find out the ways of empowering the local community socially and economically through tribal handicrafts, arts, and crafts.
- Create awareness across the industry to contribute to the preservation of tribal monuments, museums, and languages.
- Formulate strategies for dealing with the issues and challenges of main streaming.

Sub Themes

- Tribal Handicrafts, Paintings, and Ornaments
- Tribal Dances, Songs, and Musical Instruments
- Tribal Fairs, Festivals, and Rituals
- Tribal Deities, Temples, and Monuments
- Tribal Customs, Traditions, and Social Organisations
- Tribal Languages and Oral Literature
- Tribal Museums and Heritage Archiving
- Tribal Cuisine and Ethno-Medicinal Knowledge
- Religious Beliefs and Practices of Tribes
- Haat - Bazar and Local Economies in Tribal Areas
- Mainstreaming and Tribal Heritage Integrity
- Role of the Indian Constitution and the Government in the Preservation of Tribal Heritage and Culture
- Preservation of Tribal Culture and Heritage through Tourism
- The role of the Tourism Industry in the livelihoods of Tribal People

About the University

The Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU) is a Central University established in April 2008 by an Act of the Parliament of India as a catalyst for spreading quality education, training, research, and consultancy in higher education.

The University is spread over 375 acres of land adjoining the Biosphere Reserve and the primitive tribal hamlets. The landscape of the campus is very picturesque, creating a peaceful and serene atmosphere. Being a national university having jurisdiction across the country, the University has also established a regional campus at Imphal in Manipur. There are 37 Departments under the various faculties, such as Tribal Studies, Social Sciences, Humanities & Philology, Science, Education, Computronics, Earth Science, Communication and Media Studies, Pharmacy, Yoga, Vocational Education and Commerce & Management, offering the Diploma, Under Graduate, Post Graduate, and Doctor in Philosophy courses to cater for the educational needs of almost 5000 students.

The Faculty of Commerce and Management

The Faculty of Commerce & Management (FCM) came into existence with the establishment of the University in 2008, with the principal objective of offering professional courses in the areas of Commerce, Management and Tourism.

The Department of Tourism Management

The Department has offered the B.A. (Tourism) since the university's inception in 2008. In 2013, the department launched the MBA (Travel and Tourism Management) program. Presently, the Department offers BBA - Tourism Management, MBA – Tourism Management (with Dual Specialisation) and PhD in Tourism Management.

Venue and Date

- The Webinar is scheduled to be held **on 23-24 November 2026** on the **Online Platform**. More information can be obtained from the university **website: www.igntu.ac.in.**

Target Participants

- As the Webinar is interdisciplinary, students, research scholars and faculty members in Tourism Management, Tribal Studies, Business Management, Commerce, Social Sciences and Humanities would immensely benefit from the discussions and paper presentations. Moreover, the tourism industry and the government would benefit from the Webinar's outcomes.

Guidelines for Abstracts and Full-Length Paper

- The abstract of the proposed research paper **should not exceed 250 words**. The full-length Papers should be presented in a logical and academic manner with a **minimum of 4000 words.**
- The author's contact details (address, email, telephone number) must feature on a separate first page, followed by the Paper's title and abstract.
- The reference style for the full-length Paper should be **APA.**
- **Font: Times New Roman, Space: 1.5 and justified.**
- The Paper and abstract should be submitted to the organising secretary at the email: **tribalheritage.igntu@gmail.com.**

Our team of experts will review the abstract and full-length Paper. Acceptance for presentation and publication will be communicated to the author(s).

Important Dates

Abstract Submission Last Date :
05th November 2026

Acceptance of Abstract :
10th November 2026

Full-Length Paper Submission Last Date:
14th November 2026

Email: tribalheritage.igntu@gmail.com

Fee

Faculty members and Industry Executives : ₹ **700/-**
Research Scholar : ₹ **500/-**
PG Students : ₹ **300/-**

Registration should be made through online mode in favour of **"Head, DTM, IGNTU."**

Bank details / QR Code

Bank name	Branch	IFSC
Central Bank of India	**IGNTU, Amarkantak**	**CBIN0284695**

Account name	Account number
HOD Tourism Management	**3623930039**

UPI ID : 469520260216@cbin

Link for registration :

https://forms.gle/oC8vnJy7heHYYkPZ6

Organised By

Department of Tourism Management
Faculty of Commerce & Management
Indira Gandhi National Tribal University,
Amarkantak – 484886, MP, India

The Organising Committee

Chief Patron

Prof. A. K. Shukla
Hon'ble Vice - Chancellor
IGNTU, Amarkantak, M.P.

Patron

Prof. S. K. Baral
Dean
Faculty of Commerce and Management
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Link for registration : **https://forms.gle/oC8vnJy7heHYYkPZ6**