

Centre for Comparative Literature
School of Humanities
University of Hyderabad

Invites you to

RAW.CON 2026 (Researchers at Work Conference)
11th Annual National Conference on

“Reading Otherwise: Literature, Digital Mediation, and Informal Knowledge Cultures”

27th to 28th January 2026

Auditorium, School of Humanities

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Day 1		<i>27th Jan 2026</i>
09:00AM – 09:30 AM	<p>Inaugural Session</p> <p>Welcome Address: Raw.Con Convener</p> <p>Guests of Honour:</p> <p>Prof. B.J. Rao, Vice-Chancellor, UoH</p> <p>Prof. M. Ghanashyam Krishna, Director, IoE</p> <p>Prof. M.T Ansari, Dean, Humanities School</p> <p>Prof. J. Bheemaiah, Head and Coordinator, CCL</p>	
09:30 AM – 10:30 AM	<p>Keynote Address: The New York Times is a Gaming Company: Imperialism, Shaping Reality, and Capitalising on the Engagement Economy</p>	<p>Prof. Adithya Deshbandhu</p>

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Tea Break
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Session 1A: Rethinking Digital Participation

Chair: Asit Kumar Biswal

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM	<i>Reading Otherwise: Audiobooks, “literary listening”, and Self-Care</i>	Chitra Kumari PhD IIT Roorkee
11:00 AM – 11:15 AM	<i>Beyond the Ocular: Dismantling Systematically Distorted Communication in Digital Narratives</i>	Shubangi Bajpayee Independent Scholar
11:15 AM – 11:30 AM	<i>Scrolling for Smut: Women’s Reading Cultures in the Attention Economy</i>	Christina Joshy PhD, IIT Hyderabad
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Discussion, Q&A	

Session 1B: Narratives on Women in Digital Spaces

Chair: Dr. Libin Andrews

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM	<i>Posted on Facebook Before Publishing as a Book: A Reading of Echmukutty’s Digital Automedia and the Later Printed Autobiography</i>	Kadambari K. B PhD, IIT Hyderabad
12:15 PM – 12:30 PM	<i>Reconfiguring Femininity in Popular Hindi Cinema: Women in Imtiaz Ali’s Films</i>	Masarrat Zareen PhD, Maulana Azad National Urdu University
12:30 PM – 12: 45 PM	<i>Pausing through Brutal Narratives in Dahlia de la Cerda’s Reservoir Bitches</i>	K. Phoojaa Independent Scholar
12:45 PM – 01:15 PM	Discussion, Q&A	

01:15 PM – 02:15 PM	Lunch Break
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Session 1C: Digital Dissent and Discourse

Chair: Jay S. Dash

02:15 PM – 02:30 PM	<i>The Digital Jolly Roger: One Piece, Algorithmic Visibility, and the Pedagogy of Dissent in Indonesia</i>	Rishika Ridhi M.A, Adamas University
02:30 PM – 02:45 PM	<i>Social Media As A Site Of Carceral Discourse: Examining Its Role In Shaping Carceral Perceptions Of Political Imprisonments During Anti-Caa Protests</i>	Riddhi Kumari Sharma PhD, Delhi University
02:45 PM – 03:00 PM	<i>Islamic Feminist Discourse in Short-Form Digital Media</i>	Masarrath Anjum PhD, Bengaluru City University
03:00 PM – 03:15 PM	<i>Illustrating Resistance: Food, Caste and The Big Fat Bao</i>	P M Sandra M.A, Pondicherry University
03:15 PM – 04:00 PM	Discussion, Q&A	

04:00 PM – 04:15 PM	Tea Break
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Day 2	28th Jan 2026
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Session 2A: Technocratic Dystopia

Chair: Dr. Ashariya Gadhavi

09:30AM – 09:45AM	<i>From Madness to Method: A Reading of Postmillennial Paranoia in Samit Basu's Chosen Spirits</i>	Rasik Usean F PhD, Pondicherry University
09:45AM – 10:00AM	<i>Into the Invisible Algorithmic Architecture: A Study of Surveillance Capitalism in Select Movies</i>	Athira Hanna K H PhD, University of Calicut
10:00 AM – 10:15AM	<i>The Visibility of Accusation and the Silence of Resolution in Contemporary Media.</i>	Aastha Kumari M.A, University of Hyderabad
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM	Discussion, Q&A	

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Tea Break
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Session 2B: Meme(ing) Cultures

Chair: Ahlam Abdul Salam

11:00 AM – 11:15 AM	<i>Curating Meaning Through Memes: Anti-Caste and Gender Narratives in Digital India</i>	Shreeti Shubham PhD, University of Hyderabad
11:15 AM – 11:30 AM	<i>Reading Memes and Reels as micro-cinematic forms: Film Aesthetics and Audio-visuality in New Media</i>	Rajam Sri Rohith PhD, University of Hyderabad
11:30 PM – 11:45 PM	<i>Laughing Through Pain: Childhood Trauma and Cultural Expression in Indian Meme Culture</i>	Azmat Faruki PhD, Bansthali Vidyapith

11:45 PM – 12:00 PM	<i>“Fresh Fresh Fresh”: Memes as Metaphor of the New Malayalam Digital Sphere</i>	Zaki Hamdan Rahmani Nalakath PhD, EFLU
12:00 PM – 12:40 PM	Discussion and Q/A	

12:40 PM – 01:40 PM	Lunch Break
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Session 2C: Politics of Misrepresentation

Chair: Tanmoy Mazumder

01:40 PM – 01:55 PM	<i>Aestheticizing Kashmir: Yawar Abdal’s “Yambarzaloo” and the Digital Mediation of Cultural Identity</i>	Mohammad Jahanzaib Tariq M.A, Adamas University
01:55 PM – 02:10 PM	<i>Reading the Birhor Otherwise: Digital Visibility, Ethnography, and Indigenous Marginality</i>	Muskan PhD, University of Hyderabad
02:10 PM – 02:25 PM	<i>Laughing Through Pain: Childhood Trauma and Cultural Expression in Indian Meme Culture</i>	Nehna Mohammed O Independent Scholar
02:25 PM – 02:55 PM	Discussion, Q&A	

02:55 PM – 03:10 PM	Tea Break
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Session 2D: Panel Discussion

Chair: Dr. Purnachandra Naik

03:10 PM – 03:30 PM	YouTube, Rural Creators, and Digital Labour in South India	N.Srikanth
03:30 PM – 03:50 PM	Platformed Participation: Indian Film Memes after the Digital Turn	Spandan Bhattacharya

03:50 PM – 04:10 PM	The Politics and Geopolitics of Data	Aakanasha Natani
04:10 PM – 04:50 PM	Discussion, Q&A	

04:50 PM – 05:30 PM	Valedictory Ceremony
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