



Two Days National Seminar on Traditional Healing Practices in Jharkhand

11-12 March 2026



Organized by

Department of Anthropology and Tribal Studies
School for the Study of Culture
Central University of Jharkhand
Ranchi-835222, Jharkhand, India

Convenor of the Seminar

Dr. Rabindranath Sarma
Professor

Head, Department of Anthropology and Tribal Studies

Dean, School for the Study of Culture
Central University of Jharkhand
Ranchi-835222, Jharkhand
Contact-

Nature, Culture, and Community in Healing



Our University

Central University of Jharkhand (CUJ), Ranchi, is a premier institution of higher learning established on 1st March 2009 under the Central Universities Act, envisions for becoming a flagship institution rooted in Bharatiya culture and spiritual legacy while fostering scientific and rational thinking for a better world. The mission of the University is to provide accessible, affordable, and quality education for all, fostering inclusive growth, academic excellence, and social responsibility. At present, the University comprises 9 Schools and 26 Departments, offering a wide range of Integrated UG-PG, Postgraduate, Ph.D., and Post-Doctoral programmes across diverse disciplines. The University blessed with lush greenery and a pleasant climate throughout the year, providing an ideal environment for learning, research, and holistic development.

Our Department

The Department of Anthropology and Tribal Studies at the Central University of Jharkhand was established on 20 September 2022 through restructuring and merging of existing academic units to promote interdisciplinary study of human and tribal societies. The Department aims to generate innovative scholarship and provide holistic education by combining theory, practice, and field-based research. Its vision is to become a centre of excellence in collaborative, community-oriented research, teaching, and social engagement that addresses contemporary societal challenges.

Ranchi City

Ranchi district lies at 23°22'N latitude and 85°20'E longitude, close to the Tropic of Cancer. It is located in the southern part of the Chota Nagpur Plateau, which forms the eastern section of the Deccan Plateau. The region is characterized by a hilly topography and dense tropical forest cover, which together contribute to a relatively moderate and pleasant climate compared to other parts of Jharkhand. During summer, temperatures generally range between 22°C and 42°C, while winter temperatures vary from 0°C to 25°C. December and January are the coldest months, with temperatures in some areas dropping close to the freezing point.

About the Department

मानवविज्ञान एवं जनजातीय अध्ययन विभाग

The Department of Anthropology and Tribal Studies came into existence on 20th September 2022.

Mission

The Department of Anthropology and Tribal Studies strives to :

- Produce innovative scholarship that advances the understanding of complexities and diversities of human cultures,
- Deliver comprehensive education that includes theoretical, practical components, as well as hands-on experience with community / field based researches,
- Engage with communities for creating partnership for learning, knowledge sharing, and contributing to their well-being,
- Cultivate critical thinking and creative expression to develop ethical and engaged leaders who can address complex challenges facing the world.

Vision

The Department of Anthropology and Tribal Studies envisions to be :

- A hub for collaborative and community-based researches that address the pressing societal needs and challenges.
- Recognized for its excellence in research, teaching, and engagement.
- A seat of learning that fosters cultural humility and promotes understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of different communities/individuals.
- A centre for life-long educational learning aiding in creation of a more just and equitable world.

Courses Offered

- Integrated B.A and M.A in Anthropology.
- Ph.D. Programmes

Head of the Department

- Prof. Rabindranath Sarma

Faculty Members

- Prof. Sucheta Sen Chaudhuri
- Prof. Rabindranath Sarma
- Dr. Seema Mamta Minz
- Dr. Rajanikant Pandey
- Dr. Samsheer Alam
- Dr. T. Neishoning Koirang
- Dr. M. Ramakrishnan

Mode of Seminar- Offline

Nature-Based Medicine

CONCEPT NOTE

Natural medicine remains a reliable form of healing for tribal and rural communities. Their practices include herbal remedies, spiritual healing, and personal care. Limited access to modern healthcare encourages reliance on traditional systems. In Jharkhand, tribal communities use nature-based knowledge for rituals and indigenous treatments. Healing is viewed holistically, supporting physical, mental, and emotional health, and is found useful in managing some chronic diseases.

Tribal communities of Jharkhand are custodians of nature and use their surroundings for customs, rituals, and indigenous healing. These practices include herbal medicine, spiritual rituals, chanting, massage, and yoga, with healing viewed holistically for physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Traditional healers are trusted community figures who rely on experience and cultural knowledge rather than formal training. They offer accessible, culturally sensitive care at homes or village centres and treat various ailments using local forest herbs.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR

- To explore the diversity of traditional healing practices followed by tribal communities in Jharkhand.
- To document indigenous knowledge related to herbal medicine and spiritual healing.
- To understand the holistic approach of traditional healing in physical, mental, and emotional well-being.
- To examine the role of traditional healers in rural and tribal society.
- To discuss the relevance of traditional healing practices in contemporary healthcare systems.

THEMES AND SUB-THEMES

1.Indigenous Knowledge Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none">Oral traditions and transmission of healing knowledgeRole of elders and traditional healersCommunity-based learning practices	2.Herbal Medicine and Ethnobotany <ul style="list-style-type: none">Medicinal plants of Jharkhand forestsPreparation and usage of herbal remediesConservation of medicinal plant resources
3.Spiritual and Ritual Healing <ul style="list-style-type: none">Faith healing, rituals, and chantingRole of beliefs, myths, and symbols in healingSacred spaces and healing practices	4.Traditional Healers and Community Health <ul style="list-style-type: none">Social status and roles of healersTrust, ethics, and patient-healer relationshipsGender-specific healing practices
5. Similar Traditional Healing Practices in other parts of the Country <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unani medical practiceAyurvedic PracticeYoga PracticeMusical Practice	6.Traditional Healing and Modern Healthcare <ul style="list-style-type: none">Complementarity with modern medicineChallenges and opportunities of integrationPolicy perspectives and preservation of traditional knowledge

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- More awareness and sensitization regarding traditional healing practices in Jharkhand.
- Documentation and Preservation of healing practices knowledge.
- Promoting the integratory initiatives between traditional and modern healthcare systems.
- Stronger networks to ensure sustainable and ethical use of traditional healing practices.

PARTICIPANTS

- Research Scholar
- Postgraduate (PG) Students
- Academicians and Faculty Members
- Traditional Healers and Indigenous Practitioners
- Tribal Community Leaders and Elders
- Professionals from Health and Social Work Sectors
- NGOs and Civil Society Representatives
- Policy Makers and Government Officials
- Independent Researchers and Practitioners

Important Dates

9th
Mar
2026

Last date of Abstract Submission

10th
Mar
2026

Abstract Acceptance

11th
Mar
2026

Last date of Registration

11th
Mar
2026

Full paper Submission

Registration and Fee Details

Faculty-	Rs. 1500
Research Scholar-	Rs. 500 (only Participation), Rs. 1000 (paper presentation)
Postgraduate-	Rs. 300 (only Participation), Rs. 500 (paper presentation)
Others-	Rs. 1000 (only Participation), Rs. 1500 (paper presentation)

Accommodation

Participants will have to arrange their own accommodation.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Originality:** The paper must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration for publication elsewhere.
- Language & Format:** Papers may be submitted in English or Hindi in MS Word format only.
- Font Style:**
English: Times New Roman, font size 12
Hindi: Mangal or Kruti Dev, font size 12
- Line Spacing:** The manuscript should be typed with 1.15 line spacing.
- Length:** The paper should be between 2500–5000 words, including the abstract.
- References:** All references must follow the APA 7th edition citation style.

Payment Details

Details of Registration fee to be transferred in the following Bank Account
Bank Name: Punjab National Bank
Account Name: National Seminar on Traditional Healing Practices in Jharkhand.
Account No.: 7277000100023966
IFSC Code- PUNB0727700

Abstract/Full paper submission link

E-mail at- nsdatsthehealing@cuji.ac.in

Contact Us

Website- <https://cuji.ac.in/>

Mail- nsdatsthehealing@cuji.ac.in

Phone- Kanchan Kumari- 7992434990

Key Persons of the National Seminar

Chief Patron -

Prof Sarang Medhekar, Vice Chancellor, CUJ

Patron-

Shri K. Kosala Rao, Registrar, CUJ
Shri P. K. Panda, Finance Officer, CUJ
Dr. B. B. Mishra, COE, CUJ

Advisors-

Prof. A.K. Padhy, Dean, R & D Cell
Prof. Manoj Kumar, Dean Academics

Core Committee-

Prof. Rabindranath Sarma
Prof. Sucheta Sen Chaudhuri
Dr. Rajanikant Pandey
Dr. Seema Mamta Minz
Dr. Shamsheer Alam
Dr. T.N. Koireng
Dr. M. Ramakrishnan

Organising Committee-

Prof. Rabindranath Sarma, Organising Secretary
Dr. Rajanikant Pandey, Assistant Organising Secretary
Dr. Seema Mamta Minz, Assistant Organising Secretary
Dr. M. Ramakrishnan (Incharge, Academic)
Dr. T.N. Koireng (Incharge, Food)
Dr. Shamsheer Alam (Incharge, Hall Arrangement)
Dr. Shakir Taslim (Incharge, Cultural Program)
Dr. Vineet kr. Agotiya (Incharge, Volunteer)
Mr. Santosh (Estate support)
Dr. Shushil Shukla (Incharge, Accommodation)
Dr. Shashi Mishra (Incharge, Transport)
Mr. Prashant & Mr. Somenath Dutta (Finance)

How to Reach

Ranchi city is well connected by air, rail, and road. The Birsa Munda Airport operates regular ✈ flights to major Indian cities, while Ranchi Junction and Hatia Junction are two major railway stations linking the city to major cities of India. Road connectivity is also strong through national highways and bus services. The Central University of Jharkhand (CUJ), located at CheriManatu about 25 km from Ranchi, can be conveniently reached by booking a cab or using a local autorickshaw from the railway stations or the airport