



Samskruti Foundation
The Culture, Our Identity



NATIONAL SEMINAR ON 'MAHAKUMBH 2025: RITUALS TO RESILIENT RIVER REJUVENATION'

24 - 25 FEB 2025

SuJalam, the Center for Resilient Water Management (CRWM) is a national research center of Samskruti Foundation, a Culture-guided Leadership and Public Policy Think Tank. The Foundation was established by an eminent council of senior academicians, policy experts, social scholars, and philanthropists with the mission 'To preserve, protect and encourage the practice of the Bharatiya culture and ethos through research, education, training, and dialogue'.

MAHA KUMBH 2025

The Maha Kumbh, is a *Samskritik Jala Utsav* (Ceremonial Water festival) and grand Bharatiya Dharmik pilgrimage acts as a microcosm of Bharat's multifaceted relationship with its river bodies. Eternally Kumbh is a confluence (*Sangama*) of all the cultures in the universe symbolising the flow of humanity as a path of enlightenment through communion of nature and spiritual conscience. The Maha Kumbh at Prayag is widely considered the most significant Samskritik Jala Utsav as the source of light and knowledge. This vibrant Dharmik event transcends mere religious/ ritual observance, serving as a confluence of cultures and a catalyst for spiritual awakening. The Maha Kumbh provides a unique stage where the intricate interplay between rivers and society unfolds through a rich tapestry of legends, rituals, beliefs, and practices. These elements passed down through generations, define the profound connection between people and rivers, encompassing the complex web of civilizational dynamics that influence rivers and their delicate ecosystems.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR RESILIENT RIVER REJUVENATION.

- **Dr̥ṣṭi** (दृष्टि): Perception towards river and river society ecology.
- **Svāmitva** (स्वामित्व): Stewardship of rivers and their societies.
- **Ātmaśakti** (आत्मशक्ति): Resilience of river ecology and river society civilisation.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

Samskruti Foundation, in association with the University of Allahabad and Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology Allahabad, Prayagraj, is organising a national seminar on 'Mahakumbh 2025: Rituals to Resilient River Rejuvenation'.

The seminar aims to explore multiple areas within the Maha Kumbh 2025 and Prayagraj covering rivers, their ecological systems, and the civilizations that have flourished along the rivers. These were deemed of particular interest due to their potential to reveal insights about stakeholder relationships with the river and its surroundings. It will examine the policies and practices that influence institutional frameworks for river society research methodologies, strategies, and policy interventions. Additionally, the seminar will investigate citizen/ pilgrim perspectives, practices, and the development of resilient river rejuvenation. This seminar brings together experts, policymakers, academics, and practitioners to explore the intersection of civilization, academic, public policy, and governance.



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CALL FOR FULL PAPERS

We seek contributions that advance understanding the complexities and strategies associated with cultural practices, policies, risks, imbalances in river ecology and biodiversity, through the lens of *Dṛṣṭi*, *Svāmitva*, and *Ātmaśakti*. We welcome submissions of original research articles that contribute to scholarly understanding within the following thematic areas that focus on specific areas, but not limited to, within the Maha Kumbh 2025 covering rivers, their ecological systems, and the civilisations that have flourished along the rivers. Further, this understanding could inform future policies and practices aimed at promoting sustainable and responsible behavior during similar large-scale events.

24 FEB 2025 @ UNIVERSITY OF ALLAHABAD

TRACK #1: KUMBH RITUALS AND PRACTICES.

- Amrit Snan Rituals and ceremonies
- Kalpavas
- Prayagraj Panchkoshi Parikrama
- Daan (Pind Daan, Anna Daan, Gau Daan etc.)
- Yagna practices in Kumbh
- Mantras and Prayers in Kumbh & their relevance
- Akharas and Spiritual practices
- Education Learnings from Maha Kumbh



TRACK #2: SENSITIVITY TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENT.



- Pilgrims
- Kalpavas practitioners
- Swachata workers
- Rakshana services (Police & Security)
- Spiritual Leaders
- Civil servants
- Kumbh Camps Organizers
- NCC and other volunteers etc

TRACK #3: HISTORY AND CIVILIZATION OF THE RIVER GANGA

- Role of the Kumbh Mela in Bharat's Freedom fight.
- Ganga Civilization's Impact on Education and Development
- Metaphors of Akshaya Vata Vriksha
- History of Ganga Ecology & Conservation Efforts
- History of the Ganga Trade Networks
- Prakrti - The Integral Vision of Bharat
- Archaeological study of Ganga, Saraswati river Civilization
- Ganga in Vedic, Upanishad and Puranic Literature.

HYBRID MODE
25 Feb 2025



Important Dates:

- Full paper Submission: 20 Feb 2025
- Acceptance : 22 Feb 2025
- Seminar : 24 - 25 Feb 2025

[CLICK to Submit Your Paper](#)

**REGISTRATION
FREE**



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25 FEB 2025 @ MNNIT

TRACK #4: CASE STUDIES ON MAHA KUMBH 2025 ZONE

- Vriksharopan Samadhan (Tree Plantation)
- Ek thaila Ek thali abhiyan (एक थैला, एक थाली अभियान)
- Bhandaras and Mega Kitchens of Maha Kumbh 2025
- Solid waste Management (Sewerage/ waste disposal, STPs)
- Infrastructure & Public Utilities (Pontoon Bridges, Water ATMs)
- Traditional Visual Artistic preparations in Prayagraj and their social impact (Paint my City, Kalagram, Exhibitions etc.)
- Transport and Logistics
- Health and Emergency Services
- Tech innovations in Maha Kumbh 2025
- Community-based water conservation initiatives.
- Micro, Small and Medium Businesses and economies
- Future perspectives of temporary Kumbh town planning
- Soil health, Ground water, and Biodiversity in Kumbh area.



TRACK #5: BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY OF GANGA

- Health of the Ganga River basin Urban and Rural Areas
- Health of Tributaries of Yamuna and Ganga Rivers
- River biodiversity and ecology
- Sewage and Liquid/Solid Waste
- The Effects of Microplastics on River Biodiversity
- The health of groundwater in the Ganga River Basin
- Cleanup and remediation of river pollution



SAMSKRUTI KUMBH SCHOLAR AWARD

Each track/ thematic area has one award for the best article by an early-career scholar under the age of 35.

HYBRID MODE
25 Feb 2025

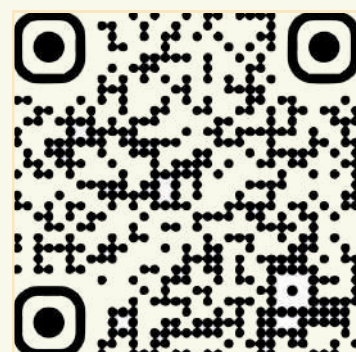
Participants in all Tracks (#1, #2, #3, #4, #5) may request to attend the Seminar in Hybrid Mode.

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR PAPER](#)

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AUTHOR GUIDELINES

SUBMIT YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS:

- Articles and viewpoints should be written in English, Hindi or Sanskrit. Authors are advised to choose to have their manuscripts professionally edited before submission, as papers with poor readability will not be accepted.
- Full-length articles should be between 2,500 - 5,000 words in length (excluding abstract, and references). The article must comprise the research background and relevance of the study, methodology or field survey approach, preliminary results, and conclusions.
- The templates for Full-length articles along with submission guidelines can be downloaded from the seminar website.

REGISTRATION FEE:

- Registration is FREE for all scholarly Full-length articles accepted for presentation and publication in the seminar proceedings.

PUBLICATION:

- All full papers submitted for the seminar will undergo a double-blind review process.
- All accepted full-length articles for the 'National Seminar' will be published in the proceedings book titled 'Mahakumbh 2025: Rituals to Resilient River Rejuvenation'.

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**REGISTRATION
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