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Last date for registration: 23 February 2023

Registration Charges:

Academicians/Practitioners/Other Delegates: Rs.600
Research Scholar: Rs.500
Students: Rs.300/-

Spot registration facilities are also available

Bank Account details for payment:

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Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya

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Department of Social Work
Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya

**NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
LEGAL DISCOURSE ON
WOMEN AND WITCH HUNTING IN INDIA
23-24 February 2023**

Sponsored by



Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
Northern Regional Centre, New Delhi

Organized by



Department of Social Work,
Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidhyalaya
Koni, Bilaspur Chhattisgarh

About the University

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya is a Central University offlocated in Bilaspur C.G. State, established under Central Universities Act 2009, No. 25 of 2009. Formerly called Guru Ghasidas University (GGU), established by an Act of the Legislative Assembly was formally inaugurated on June 16, 1983. GGU is an active member of the Association of Indian Universities and the Association of Commonwealth Universities. Situated in a socially and economically challenged area. The university is appropriately named to honour the great Satnami saint Guru Ghasidas (born in the 17th century), who Championed The cause of the downtrodden and waged relentless struggles against all forms of social evils and injustice prevailing in society. The University is a residential Institution.

About the Department

The Department was established in the year 1998 with the aim of producing trained social workers to cater to the needs of community development and human resource management. It offers a master's degree course on a regular basis leading to the degree of Master of Social Work (MSW). In addition to this, doctoral programs are also conducted. The Department conducts multifarious activities, to exposure of the students to real-life and field situations. Students of the Department make visits to various NGOs and welfare agencies. They interact with the inmates and officials and community people. The department organizes several rural camps in the nearby villages to arouse awareness amongst the rural masses regarding prevailing social problems (like evil effects of alcoholism practice of child labour, dowry, illiteracy, preventive measures of AIDS, myths, taboos, health hazards, and drug abuse). Outreach programs are arranged for community development. Program media are effectively employed for communication by the students such as plays, speeches, folklore, and other cultural activities

About the Seminar:

As the calendar was turning into 2022, a frenzied mob attacked a 75-year-old woman, blackened Her face garlanded her with shoes, and took her to a village. It is not just about one village or one district. This is a sad reality across the country where more than 17 states are falling prey to witchcraft, however, it is a huge global problem which is happening in the time of 'Digital India'. There was a time when the female literacy rate was 54.16 per cent two decades ago. According to the National Family Health Survey 2019-21 (NFHS-5), it has reached 71.5 per cent today, but still, there is unawareness about witchcraft and witchcraft-hunting in rural and tribal areas. During the literature review, it has been found that women from rural and tribal areas have various myths and misconceptions about witchcraft and are not aware that they are committing crimes like witch-hunting, but some of them are still victims of witchcraft. The people of the urban area are not even aware of the witch hunt and they do not believe that it still exists. Witch hunting is not just the result of superstition but also family disputes over property, land rights of women, gender conflicts, and many others reasons. This is a heinous crime and different states have taken action against it by formulating state acts to protect and prevent this crime. But somewhere there is something lacking in these Acts which calls for a national Act, in which the recommendations of the empirical research findings and seminars/workshops reports can play a pivotal role in the call for the National Act.

The deliberations in the seminar will help:

1. To make participants (Students and different stakeholders) aware of the witch-hunting issue and
2. problems faced by victims and their family members.
3. Findings of the program may give directions, which will help in the modification of existing laws and acts for witch-hunting protection at the state and national levels.
4. It will help in highlighting the unnoticed issue of the rural and tribal community.
5. With the help of experts, will come to know about victims' survival and rehabilitation

Sub-themes

1. Witch, witchcraft, and witch hunts- A History.
2. Witches, witch hunts, and women.
3. Tribes and Witch Hunts.
4. Witch hunting and the role of media.
5. Witch-Hunting: A form of violence against Dalit Women in India.
6. Legislative frameworks for the protection of witch hunting in India.
7. Social work Intervention in mitigating social evil
8. Role of educational Institutions in the abolition of witch-hunting practices.
9. Role of stakeholders (local people, PRIs, CBOs, voluntary organizations, police and government departments) in the elimination of witch hunting.
10. Any other related to the main theme.

Publication:

All selected papers at the national conference will be published in an edited volume with a reputed publisher and ISBN number. The title “**Legal Discourse on Women and Witch Hunting**” and the publisher will be announced later. All queries regarding the Conference and paper submission can be mailed to anushka.atram007@gmail.com (Mb. No. 7898514079)

Guidelines for the full paper submission

1. Ensure to send the original plagiarism-free manuscript only.
2. Follow the APA - American Psychological Association 6th/7th edition for reference.
3. The submission file must be in MS office, font Times New Roman, Font Size 12, 14 and 16 for main content subheadings and main headings with a linespacing of 1.5.
4. Word limit for a paper should be between 3500 to 5000 words supported by an abstract of 200-300 words with keywords.
5. The unpublished papers will only be accepted, the author and co-authors require filling the
6. declaration form for it.
7. Brief profile of Author and Co-authors to be submitted with the full Paper.

Important Dates:

Abstract submitted: 20 February 2023
Full Paper submission: 28 February 2023