

# Islamic University of Science and Technology, Kashmir International Centre for Spiritual Studies

## Call for Paper

# One-Day Online National Symposium

# Harmony through Dialogue: Bridging Faiths, Building Peace

The International Centre for Spiritual Studies (ICSS), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), is pleased to announce Call for Papers for its upcoming one-day online National Symposium titled "Harmony through Dialogue: Bridging Faiths, Building Peace," to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025. The symposium aims to engage scholars, researchers, and students from across India in meaningful dialogue on interfaith understanding, cooperation, and peacebuilding, fostering academic exchange and mutual enrichment across diverse faith and cultural traditions.

Selected papers will be reviewed and published in an edited volume.

Prof. G. N. Khaki (DIRECTOR, ICSS)

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## Concept Note

In today's world, rich in religio-cultural diversity yet often marked by division, fostering sincere interfaith dialogue is essential to build a more peaceful, inclusive society. The coexistence of diverse faith and spiritual traditions across the world stands as a testimony to humanity's shared values and capacity for mutual enrichment. This legacy offers meaningful inspiration for how different religious and cultural communities can live in harmony and contribute to contemporary conversations on peacebuilding and interfaith engagement. Building on shared values as a model of interfaith harmony, the symposium will address pressing contemporary challenges including extremism and intolerance, while emphasizing constructive, practical responses as advocated in contemporary scholarly research. It seeks to foster interdisciplinary academic inquiry and community outreach, encouraging new collaborations and networks among individuals and institutions dedicated to nurturing religious understanding.

The symposium as such is conceived to bring together scholars, religious leaders, researchers, and students from across India to create a respectful and collaborative platform for open dialogue. Central to these discussions will be core values such as compassion, shared ethics, and cooperation beyond religious and cultural boundaries. The event will explore how meaningful dialogue can dismantle stereotypes, reduce conflict, and promote peace locally and globally. To be organized by the International Centre for Spiritual Studies at the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), this one-day online national symposium will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 under the theme "Harmony through Dialogue: Bridging Faiths, Building Peace." Through this symposium, the Centre intends to advance both academic knowledge and practical community engagement, fostering deeper understanding and actionable cooperation that can help build bridges between faith communities.

Academicians and scholars are expected to present research papers on a broad range of interfaith topics, including the foundations of pluralism, role of dialogue in conflict resolution, shared ethical commitments across religions, and the involvement of youth and civil society in peacebuilding efforts.

#### Themes for Discussion

- · Concept of Pluralism in World Religions
- Interfaith Dialogue as a Tool for Conflict Resolution
- Ethics, Human Rights, and Shared Values in Religious Traditions
- · Role of Youth, and Civil Society in Interfaith Engagement
- Interfaith Responses to Global Crises (e.g., displacement, ecological challenges)
- Historical and Cultural Dimensions of Interfaith Dialogue in Kashmir

### **Expected Outcomes**

- Strengthening of academic and institutional commitment to interfaith studies at the Centre.
- Development of frameworks to continue interfaith dialogue in academic, and social contexts.
- Publication of key insights, proceedings, and recommendations arising from the symposium.
- Expansion of collaborative networks with scholars and institutions working in related fields.

#### **Guidelines for Submission**

- Symposium Date: 3rd November 2025
- Last date for submission of full paper: 1st November 2025
- Abstract word limit: 150-200 words
- Full paper word limit: 4500–5000 words
- · Email: publicationsicssiust@gmail.com

## Instructions for paper presenters

- For transliteration of non-English words and terms, use a standard transliteration system.
- Follow the latest Chicago Style of Referencing for both footnotes and bibliography.