



**8 weeks Online Short-Term Training Programme**

**on**

**Folklore Studies in the Digital Age: Report**

**February 03, 2026 to March 31, 2026**

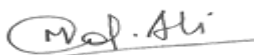
**Report**

The Centre for Language, Translation, and Cultural Studies (CLTCS), School of Humanities, Netaji Subhas Open University, organized an online 8-week Short-Term Programme on Folklore Studies in the Digital Age (3rd cycle) that began on February 03, 2026, and concluded on March 31, 2026. The participants included research scholars, Ph.D. candidates, and faculty members from across different streams and disciplines all over India. In total, 125 participants from forty-three institutes, including state universities, IITs, NITs, central universities, and state universities, took part in the Folklore Studies in the Digital Age course. Participants are from 23 states of India, namely West Bengal, Manipur, Nigeria (country), Bihar, Rajasthan, Assam, Uttarakhand, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Delhi, Gujarat, Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Telangana, and Himachal Pradesh (including Nigeria as an international participant). The names of the institutes are: Aligarh Muslim University; Banasthali Vidyapith; Netaji Subhas Open University; Soban Singh Jeena University; Institute of Advance Education & Research, Kolkata; Visva-Bharati University; MNIT Jaipur; Nabajyoti College, Kalgachia; South Asian University; The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda; Giridih College (Vinoba Bhave University); MANIT Bhopal; ARKA JAIN University; Federal University Wukari, Nigeria; Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University; Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV); Galgotias College of Engineering and Technology; Christ (Deemed to be University); Central University of Haryana; Central University of Rajasthan; Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit; Tripura Government Law College, Agartala; Shri Govind Guru University; IIT ISM Dhanbad; Don Bosco College, Assam; University of Jammu; Central University of Jammu; Presidency University, Kolkata; Noida Institute of Engineering and Technology; Martin Luther Christian University; University of Lucknow; Central University of Jharkhand; IIT Madras; University of Rajasthan; Pondicherry University; Adamas University, Kolkata; Vidyasagar University; Madurai Kamaraj University; Srinath University, Jamshedpur; Banaras Hindu University; Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Shekhawati University; Chandernagore College; Netaji Mahavidyalaya (The University of Burdwan).

The course was held via the Zoom platform integrated with the learning management system, with one-and-a-half-hour sessions, and the medium of instruction was English. The course advisors were Professor Manan Kumar Mandal, Coordinator, Centre for Language, Translation, and Cultural Studies (CLTCS), School of Humanities, NSOU, and Dr. Srideep Mukherjee, Associate Professor and Head of the Dept. of English and OiC, School of Humanities, NSOU. The course was coordinated by Dr. Md. Intaj Ali, Assistant Professor of English at Netaji Subhas Open University.

The inaugural address was delivered by Prof. Manan Kumar Mandal (Professor in Bengali, SoH; Coordinator, CLTCS), Dr. Srideep Mukherjee (Associate Professor in English & Head and Officer-in-Charge, SoH), and Md. Intaj Ali introduced the course objectives and modalities of the course and concluded the inauguration session. Experts from the field have been invited to run the session as per specialization in the field of folklore studies. The details of the lecture and the titles of their discussions are stated below; Dr. Lopamudra Maitra (Visual Anthropologist; Visiting Faculty, NID Gandhinagar), who spoke on “Folklore Theory: Moving from the Old and Charting New Avenues” and “Shifting Paradigms in Folklore Studies: Need to Explore New Avenues and Channels in a Global World”; Dr. Mekhala Chattopadhyay (Assistant Professor of English, Govt. Kakatiya P.G. College, Jagdalpur), who delivered a lecture on “Cultural Memory and the Living Archive”; Prof. Joly Puthussery (Head, Centre for Folk Culture Studies, University of Hyderabad), who spoke on “Folk Culture Studies: Concept, Perspectives and Approaches” and “Performing Folk Culture: Changing Contours and Contexts”; Prof. Seema Malik (Former Professor and Head, Department of English, Mohanlal Sukhadia University), who presented “Digital Folklore Project: A Case Study of Oral Traditions of Vagad”; Dr. Dhurjjati Sarma (Assistant Professor, Gauhati University), who discussed “Folklore and the Question of Canonicity: Few Perspectives from Literary History” and “Folklore and Progressivism: Revisiting Questions of Revival and Reconstruction”; Dr. Md. Intaj Ali (Assistant Professor of English, NSOU), who also conducted sessions on “Digital Folkloristics,” “Folk Music Digitization,” “Web Hosting Your Cultural Heritage: Why & How?,” and the “Feedback and Valedictory Session”; and Dr. Deepika Kashyap (Assistant Professor in Visual Communication, SRM Institute of Technology), who spoke on “Algorithmic Folklore: Between Challenges and Opportunities.”

On March 31, the course was concluded and a valedictory session was held, in which Dr. Md. Intaj Ali gave his valedictory notes. The general feedback was taken from each participant individually. He extends his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Prof. Manan Kumar Mandal and Dr. Srideep Mukherjee for their valuable and enthusiastic back-up. He did not forget to thank Pabitra Naskar and Gautam Samanta, the official staff of the school, for their tireless continuous support to make the course successful. He also shares his sincere gratitude to the technical team led by Amitava Dey for his continuous support in making this course successful.



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