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## CULTURAL AND MAINSTREAM POSTHUMANIST FORUM

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Cultural and Mainstream Posthumanist Forum · New Delhi, India

### Cultural and Mainstream Posthumanist Forum

*presents*

## Call for Papers

International Conference on

***“Posthuman Futures: Coexistence across Gender and Human Diversities”***



**26 November 2026 · 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi, India

**Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 August 2026**

### **Dr. Diksha Tripathi**

Assistant Professor, Maitreyi College, University of Delhi  
Founder, Cultural and Mainstream Posthumanist Forum (CMP)

### **Preamble**

What does it mean to be human in an age of algorithmic governance, multispecies entanglement, and the slow unravelling of Enlightenment certainties? The Cultural and Mainstream Posthumanist Forum (CMP) invites scholars, artists, practitioners, and critical thinkers to engage this question at its International Conference on “Posthuman Futures: Coexistence across Gender and Human Diversities.”

The conference proceeds from the conviction that posthumanism is not merely a theoretical horizon but a lived condition — one that is unevenly distributed across bodies, ecologies, and geographies. We are particularly interested in scholarship that troubles the unmarked normativity of posthumanist discourse: its implicit whiteness, its Western coordinates, its inattention to gender and disability as constitutive, not peripheral, concerns.

We invite contributions that think at the edges — where theory meets practice, where the body meets the machine, and where the global meets the local — and that are animated by rigour, creativity, and ethical seriousness.

### **Keynote Speakers**



### **Dr. Francesca Ferrando**

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Philosophy at NYU Liberal Studies, New York University, USA. A leading voice in the field of Posthuman Studies and founder of the NY Posthuman Research Group, Dr. Ferrando has been the recipient of numerous honours and recognitions, including the Sainati Prize with the Acknowledgment of the President of Italy. Her book *Philosophical Posthumanism* was published by Bloomsbury in June 2019. In the history of TED Talks, she was the first speaker to give a talk on the topic of the posthuman. US magazine *Origins* named her among the 100 people making change in the world. More info: [www.theposthuman.org](http://www.theposthuman.org)



### **Prof. Saugata Bhaduri**

Professor, Centre for English Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Prof. Bhaduri's scholarship navigates postcolonialism, ecocriticism, and posthumanism with rare intellectual depth. His work asks what it means to think the posthuman from and through the Global South, drawing on literary and cultural archives that resist the easy universalism of Western theory. He served as Visiting Professor (2022-23, January 8 to February 9, 2023), with Vanessa Guignery as Inviting Researcher.



### **Prof. Raj Kumar**

Professor of English, University of Delhi. Prof. Raj Kumar's work spans autobiographical studies, Dalit literature, Indian writing in English, Odia literature, and postcolonial studies. He has published widely, translated major Odia works, and authored foundational texts including *Dalit Personal Narratives* and *Dalit Literature and Criticism*. His scholarship insists on the materiality of caste and the irreducible specificity of subaltern lived experience — bringing a grounded, politically serious voice to posthumanist discourse.



### **Prof. Debashish Banerji, Ph.D.**

Haridas Chaudhuri Professor of Indian Philosophies and Cultures and Doshi Professor of Asian Art. Chair, East-West Psychology (EWP) / Asian Contemplative and Transcultural Studies (ACTS), California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, USA. A distinguished scholar at the intersection of Indian philosophy, integral thought, and transcultural studies.

## **Special Invitee**

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### **Shri Vipin Kumar, IAS**

Chairman, Airports Authority of India (AAI). Shri Vipin Kumar, IAS, brings to this conference a career defined by the governance of infrastructures that are among the most technologically intensive and algorithmically mediated in the modern world. As AAI oversees 133 airports and 2.8 million square nautical miles of airspace — systems increasingly shaped by AI, digital surveillance, and automated decision-making — his leadership sits at the precise intersection that this conference interrogates: the entanglement of human agency, institutional power, and technological transformation.

His presence at *Posthuman Futures* is particularly resonant given the conference's focus on AI, digital subjectivity, and algorithmic governance. The airport — as a site of biometric identification, algorithmic border control, and datafied mobility — is perhaps the most lived and embodied encounter most people have with posthuman systems. Shri Kumar's stewardship of this infrastructure makes him a uniquely positioned interlocutor between policy and posthumanist thought.

## **Sub-themes**

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The conference welcomes papers that engage — but are not confined to — the following thematic clusters:

- I. **Xenofeminism & the Technics of Gender** Engaging the xenofeminist manifesto's demand to "seize alienation" as a resource, this theme invites papers on technofeminism, gender abolitionism, cyborg feminism, biological essentialism and its refusal, artificial reproduction, and the politics of body modification. What does a genuinely posthuman gender politics look like?
- II. **Queer Posthumanism & Non-normative Embodiment** How do queer theory and posthumanism together dismantle regimes of normative embodiment, desire, and biological determination? Papers may address trans posthumanism, queer ecologies, non-reproductive kinship, and the erotics of the inhuman.
- III. **Crip Theory, Disability & the Enhanced Body** Disability studies and posthumanism share a critique of the normative body. This theme invites scholarship on crip futurism, prosthetics, neurodivergence, dependency ethics, and the troubling promises of enhancement technology.
- IV. **Decolonial Posthumanism & Southern Epistemologies** Posthumanism risks reproducing the very universalism it claims to undo. This theme calls for papers that bring decolonial thought, indigenous ontologies, non-Western cosmologies, and subaltern epistemologies to bear on posthumanist discourse — and vice versa.
- V. **Multispecies Ethics, Ecology & the More-than-Human** Papers on environmental humanities, interspecies cohabitation, plant intelligence, animal subjectivities, and the ethics of coexistence in an era of mass extinction and ecological precarity. How do we grieve and inhabit a damaged planet?
- VI. **AI, Digital Subjectivity & Algorithmic Power** How do machine learning, surveillance capitalism, generative AI, and digital platforms produce and police racialised and gendered subjectivities? Papers may engage with algorithmic bias, digital labour, avatar identity, affective computing, and the politics of artificial intelligence.
- VII. **Posthumanism in Literature, Art & Performance** Creative-critical explorations of posthumanist themes across fiction, poetry, film, visual art, and performance. How do aesthetic forms imagine — or foreclose — the posthuman?
- VIII. **Feminist Science & Technology Studies** Drawing on Haraway, Barad, Stengers, and allied thinkers, this theme invites papers on material feminisms, agential realism, situated knowledge, and the politics of scientific objectivity in a posthuman register.

## Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts should be 300–400 words, written in English.
- Include 5–7 keywords and a brief biographical note (100 words) with institutional affiliation.
- Presentations will be 15–20 minutes, followed by open discussion.
- Full papers may be submitted after acceptance for consideration in the conference proceedings.
- Submissions must be original and not under simultaneous review elsewhere.
- Interdisciplinary, creative-critical, and practice-based submissions are warmly welcomed.
- Please submit abstracts to: [cmpbydiksha@gmail.com](mailto:cmpbydiksha@gmail.com) and [deeksha2318tripathi@gmail.com](mailto:deeksha2318tripathi@gmail.com) with subject line: CFP – [Your Name] – Posthuman Futures 2026.

## Registration

Category	Registration Fee
International Scholars	INR 2,500
Indian Scholars	INR 1,999
CMP Scholars	INR 1,000

Registration includes access to all conference sessions, conference materials, and refreshment breaks. Payment instructions will be shared upon acceptance of abstract.

## Awards & Felicitations

The Cultural and Mainstream Posthumanist Forum will felicitate the three most outstanding presentations of the conference. Selection will be made by the academic committee on the basis of theoretical rigour, originality of argument, and quality of presentation. The awards recognise the conference's commitment to fostering the next generation of posthumanist scholarship.

## Volunteer with CMP

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CMP invites applications from students, early-career researchers, and individuals with a commitment to posthumanist thinking to join the conference as volunteers. Volunteering offers direct engagement with the intellectual life of the event, access to all sessions, and a certificate of participation from CMP.

### Volunteer roles include:

- Session coordination and speaker hospitality
- Registration and participant liaison
- Documentation, photography, and social media
- Technical support for hybrid and online components

Please indicate your interest in volunteering in your submission email or write to the conference team separately.

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*We are not the future. We are the question the future asks of itself.*

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