

Onsite Three Day National Conference

on

Reconstruction of Telangana State: Emerging Issues, Policy Interventions and Development Prospects

(26th, 27th & 28th February, 2024)

Conference Director:

Prof. C. Ganesh

Principal, Arts College & Head, Department of Sociology, O.U.

Conference Co-Director:

Prof. P. Vishnu Dev

Chairman, BoS, Department of Sociology, O.U.

Dr. Ram Shepherd Bheenaveni

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, O.U.

Department of Sociology

Osmania University, Hyderabad-500007, (T.S.), India Phone: 040-27682281, e-mail: head.sociology@osmania.ac.in

About the Conference:

As we delve into the historical echoes of Reconstruction (1865-1877) following the American Civil War, we discern its pivotal significance in reintegrating diverse parts of the state and ensuring the basic rights of the oppressed. This period sought to develop or redevelop structures that enable sustainable self-government, social and economic development, and security. The primary functions of Reconstruction were crucial for dismantling factors driving suppression and marginalization, thereby fostering sustainable prospects vital for a golden future.

Drawing a parallel to this historical epoch, Telangana, the newly formed 29th State of India, was created on 2nd June 2014 and achieved statehood after a prolonged and relentless struggle of nearly about 6 decades. It has been actively inhabited since prehistoric ages and has given rise to many empires like Asmakas, Satavahanas, Vakatakas, Ikshvakus, Chalukyas, Kakatiyas, Qutb Shahis, and Asaf Jahis. The state is the gateway to the Krishna and Godavari Rivers in South India and is considered the seed capital of India. Telangana is situated in a geographical area of 1,12,077 square kms and has a total population of 35,193,978 as per the 2011 census. Constituting a major part of the Deccan Plateau, Telangana has a pleasing climate, abundant natural and water resources, and is known for its unique culture, dialect, cuisines, and other aspects.

Albeit the common-men of Telangana innately are cause-oriented and socially active, they have confronted substantial subjugation and grave exploitation, notably during the medieval period and, more prominently, in the post-independence era through internal colonialism. The multifaceted nature of this historical subjugation has not only left an indelible mark on the socio-economic fabric of Telangana but has also engendered a continuum of struggles. These struggles, embedded in the collective memory and aspirations of the Telangana masses, reflect a persistent quest for justice, equity, and the realization of their rights.

In examining the historical context, it becomes evident that the struggles faced by the people of Telangana are not mere vestiges of the past but rather ongoing narratives. These narratives embody the resilience of a community striving for autonomy, identity, and socio-economic upliftment. It is within this historical continuum that the contemporary dynamics of Telangana find their roots. Telangana, as a newly formed and promising state, aspires to achieve comprehensive, inclusive, and holistic development for its people, but the prospects were stalled for a decade. Striving

towards the ideals of Reconstruction and Social Justice, the public rallied for an accessible and accountable government committed to a secular and democratic ethos. In alignment with the public spirit, the Government of Telangana, from the very first day of its sworn-in ceremony, has initiated a tradition of launching public-centric initiatives and programs outlined in its manifesto. These programs aim to elevate the quality of public life through a focus on welfarism, the acceleration of economic growth, improvement of infrastructure facilities, and the implementation of social welfare programs fostering inclusive growth. Importantly, many of these initiatives are in harmony with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In line with the SDGs, the Government of Telangana ought to adopt a strategic three-pronged approach: accelerating economic growth, improving infrastructure facilities, and implementing social protection programmes for inclusive growth. This strategy envisions comprehensive, inclusive, and holistic development in the state by 2030, realizing the vision of a 'People's Telangana' and providing optimal opportunities for prosperity and well-being.

To propel this vision forward, the government must implement numerous developmental and welfare programs, despite initial difficulties and constraints. The unwavering commitment to realizing the goal of 'people's Telangana' positions the state to become one of the fastest-growing in the country, setting benchmarks with groundbreaking developmental and welfare programmes. However, with the conceptual framework of Reconstructionism and the vision of 'People's Telangana', this Conference seeks to deliberate on possible pathways to harmonize Telangana's development with the postulates of Social Reconstructionism. Delving deeper into policies, core issues, challenges, and future prospects, the discourse and deliberation aim to contribute meaningfully to the ongoing narrative of People's Telangana and its pursuit of a socially just and holistically developed future.

Challenges, Opportunities, and the Way Forward:

The Conference will facilitate discussions on the challenges faced by Telangana State and society, the opportunities that lie ahead, and strategies for overcoming obstacles. The prime objective is to chart a course for comprehensive, inclusive, and holistic development, drawing on the conceptual framework of Reconstructionism. This conference provides a platform for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to engage in a meaningful dialogue, fostering a deeper understanding of

Telangana's journey, its alignment with historical reconstruction efforts, and the pursuit of sustainable development goals. Through interdisciplinary discussions, the conference aims to contribute valuable insights to the ongoing discourse on development paradigms and social reconstruction.

Sub-Themes of Conference:

- 1. Reconstruction of Telangana State: Theoretical Frameworks, Approaches and Applications
- 2. Resurgence of Telangana Identity, Heritage, Culture, Arts, Language and Literature
- 3. Status of Telangana State: Health, Educational, Economical and Employment
- 4. Development in Telangana State: Structural, Infrastructural, and Socio-Economic
- 5. Development Perspectives and Models in Telangana: Prospects and Challenges.
- 6. Welfare and Development Programmes in Telangana State: A Critical Appraisal
- 7. Decoding Caste-Centric Schemes and Vote Bank Politics: Myth or Reality?
- 8. Unemployed/Youth and Marginalized: Dissent, Resilience and Pathways to Change
- 9. Ongoing Struggles for Justice and Rights, and Changing Dynamics in Telangana State
- 10. Securing Telangana Society: Exploring Public Safety Initiatives for Crime Prevention
- 11. Media and Social Media in Telangana State: Voices, Narratives and Changing Trends
- 12. Smaller States and Development: Before, After and Beyond

Call for Papers:

Research papers are invited from Research Scholars, Faculty Members, Social Activists, Independent Researchers, Administrators, Political Representatives, Policy Makers, and Students from all disciplines. Interested candidates can submit their abstracts, approximately 500 words, by February 10, 2024, and full papers by February 20, 2024, to the Conference Director, Department of Sociology, O.U., via e-mail: head.sociology@osmania.ac.in.

Registration:

- → The registration fee is Rs. 500/- for Faculty Members, Social Activists, Independent Researchers, Research Scholars and other delegates.
- ♣ Selected paper(s) will be allowed for presentation in the Conference, and the selected papers presented in the Conference will be published in book form with an ISBN.
- ♣ No DA/TA will be provided to participants.
- ♣ Tea, snacks, and lunch will be provided to participants during the programme.

↓ Twin shared accommodation will be available for outstation participants at Osmania University Guest House upon request.

For further information, you can contact: Prof. P. Vishnu Dev +91 95504 01071

Dr. Ram Shepherd +91 94925 74081 Se-mail: head.sociology@osmania.ac.in

Important Dates:

Last Date for the submission of Abstract : 10-02-2024 (Saturday) by 11:59 PM

Last Date for the submission of Full Paper : 20-02-2024 (Tuesday) by 11:59 PM

Programme Dates : 26th - 28th February, 2024 @ 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Venue:

Room No. 133, Arts College, Osmania University, Hyderabad-500007, TS, India.