

Editorial

A comprehensive and nuanced appreciation of knowledge is best achieved through thematic, interdisciplinary, and multidisciplinary approaches that transcend conventional disciplinary and methodological boundaries. Studies addressing a common theme from multiple disciplinary perspectives, or diverse themes presented within a single scholarly platform, facilitate a broader and more integrated understanding of complex social, cultural, philosophical, and environmental realities.

As a multidisciplinary journal in the humanities and social sciences, *Sampratyaya* provides a platform for scholarly contributions spanning diverse themes and disciplines. Accordingly, the papers in this issue are arranged thematically to promote intellectual coherence and interdisciplinary engagement. The sequence of topics has been carefully designed to ensure thematic continuity, academic consistency, and conceptual progression, thereby avoiding abrupt jump between subjects. This arrangement transforms the volume into an integrated multidisciplinary scholarly engagement rather than a mere collection of unrelated papers.

Volume 3, Issue 1 (2026) of *Sampratyaya* comprises eleven papers organised into four broad thematic sections: Philosophical and Religious Studies, Theoretical and Conceptual Perspectives, Empirical Investigations, and Environmental Review.

The issue opens with Saumya Sharma's contribution, which offers a philosophically and religiously grounded analysis characterised by textual interpretation and conceptual depth. The religious and cultural dimensions of community spirituality are further explored through the study by Teron and Hazarika, focusing on institutional forms of devotion. Continuing the engagement with religion, Thomas K. U. examines ritual performance through the lens of the anthropology of religion, thereby extending the discussion to the social dimensions of religious practice. Vijay Kumar's ethnographic study of the Muria community of Bastar explores death, memory, and ritual, revealing deeper philosophical reflections on life, afterlife, and cultural meanings associated with mortality.

Theoretical and policy-oriented concerns emerge in the joint paper by Sahoo and Chawla, which examines human trafficking and migration from legal and policy perspectives, addressing issues of considerable contemporary relevance. M. Maisuangdibou provides theoretical insights into the Liuleh tradition to explore questions of empowerment embedded within customary practices. Ajay Chaturvedi and Laxmidhar Behera present a pioneering contribution to the study of the Indian Knowledge System by examining the interconnections among ecology, temporality, and economy, offering a conceptually rich and theoretically rigorous framework.

The empirical section begins with a spatial analysis of occupational variation within a community, providing a significant contribution through its analytical and methodological strength. Questions of empowerment, implicit in the preceding study, become explicit in the paper by Behera and Das, which examines the role of Self-Help Groups in the empowerment of tribal women. Rahang's contribution offers a specialised linguistic-anthropological perspective, enriching empirical scholarship through an interdisciplinary approach. The issue concludes with Ruchi Shree's

insightful review of Ramachandra Guha's work on environmental concerns, highlighting important dimensions of environmental thought and scholarship.

Taken together, these contributions demonstrate the value of multidisciplinary inquiry in advancing knowledge. By engaging with diverse themes, perspectives, and methodologies, the issue enables readers to appreciate the scope and complexity of contemporary scholarship in a more comprehensive and objective manner.