



GEOGRAPHERS' NEWS LETTER

Association of Punjab Geographers

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**Wishing you a
Very Happy and Prosperous
New Year, 2018**

18th APG Meet and International Conference, 2017

The 18th APG Meet and International Conference of the Association of Punjab Geographers was organized by department of Geography, Lovely Professional University on 27th and 28th October, 2017 on the theme, "Re-envisioning Globalization, Development and New World Order: Perspectives from Developing Countries". Pro Chancellor Mrs. Rashmi Mittal welcomed the dignitaries and delegates. His Excellency, the Ambassador of Republic of Mali, Mr. Niankoro Yeah Samake was the Chief Guest of the Inaugural Session. Padam Bhushan, Dr. Sardara Singh Johl was the Guest of Honor for the Inaugural day function. Professor Emeritus Dr. Gopal Krishan, National Fellow, ICSSR, New Delhi, delivered the keynote address for the Conference. While addressing the participants, he focused on the changing phase of globalization as by now technology, media and even terrorism all were getting influenced by increasing surge of globalization. The changing development paradigms and withering new world order scenarios were analyzed at length.



Dignitaries at the Inaugural Session

APG President, Prof. M.S. Jaglan, discussed about the conference theme in detail and enlisted the comprehensiveness of the vast sub themes covered in the preview of 're-envisioning globalization, development and new world order'. Patron, APG, Dr. H. S. Mangat, elaborated the increased horizon of the Association of Punjab Geographers. Details about the origins and working of Association of Punjab Geographers were given and new geographers were also encouraged to come into the fold of APG. To commemorate the memory of late Sh. Devinder Singh Raina (Jammu University), APG initiated the Devinder Singh Raina Memorial Meritorious Student Award, which was conferred to Ms. Garima Jasrotia, this year's topper of Masters in Geography in Jammu University.

In all, 194 papers were presented and around 267 participants from all parts of India and various developing countries, including Nigeria, Sudan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka etc. participated in the conference. Apart from the local colleges in Jalandhar and nearby areas, the major universities and institutes where from delegates participated included University of Jammu, Jammu; Central University of Punjab, Bathinda; Maestro School of Planning and Architecture, Gudavalli, Andhra Pradesh; Punjab Remote Sensing Centre, Ludhiana; Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra; Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla; The Northcap University, Gurugram; Jiwaji University, Gwalior; University of Rajasthan, Jaipur; University of Kashmir, Srinagar;

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Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak; Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh; PDM University, Bahadurgarh (Delhi NCR), Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi; Panjab University, Chandigarh; Punjabi University, Patiala; Visva-Bharati University, West Bengal; Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development, Chandigarh; and Presidency University, Kolkata.



Ms. Serish Khera receiving Young Geographer Award

Presentations for *Dr. Saminderjit Singh 'Young Geographer Award'* were also made by three short listed participants, where *Ms. Serish Khera*, Assistant Professor, Hindu College, Amritsar, was bestowed with the prestigious award. Valedictory session of the conference was chaired by the Vice Chancellor of Lovely Professional University, *Dr. Ramesh Kanwar* and the valedictory address was delivered by *Professor Surya Kant*. Comprehensive nature of the conference themes and their apt presentations by all the participants and delegates were applauded. Efforts made by the department of Geography at LPU for its maiden international conference were highly recognized and appreciated. *Dr. Ripudaman Singh* (Convener) presented the Conference report and detailed about the two days' events. Principal *Dharam Singh Sandhu*, President Elect, APG proposed the vote of thanks to all the participants, delegates and organizers.

19th APG Meet and National Conference

Department of Geography and Department of Agriculture, Khalsa College, Patiala are jointly organising 19th APG Meet and National Conference on Nov. 2-3, 2018. The themes for the deliberations are:

Main Theme:

Sustainable Agriculture, Food Security and Environment

Sub Themes:

Agriculture and Food Production Systems

- (i) Sustainability of Agriculture and Food Availability

- (ii) Agricultural Biodiversity and Food Production Systems
- (iii) Agricultural Land Use and Crop Diversification
- (iv) Horticulture, Agro-forestry, Social Forestry and Environmental Sustainability

Urbanization, Climate Change and Degradation of Agro-ecological Conditions

- (v) Industrial Development, Urban Sprawls and Agriculture
- (vi) Climate Change: Adaptation Strategies and Agricultural Sustainability
- (vii) Degradation, Conservation and Management of Soil and Water Resources
- (viii) Organic farming and Soil Health, Stubble Burning, Air Pollution and Crop Residues Management

Basic Needs, Inclusive Rural Development and Food Security Policies

- (ix) Education, Health, Sanitation and Gender Sensitive Policies on Nutrition
- (x) Rural Development, Inclusive Growth and Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Rural Livelihood System
- (xi) National Food Security Act and Policy on Food Security, Safety and Nutrition
- (xii) Agrarian Crisis, Indebtedness and Farmers' Suicides

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Dr. Saminder Jeet Singh Young Geographer Award 2018

Original research papers along with bio-data of the authors who are Masters in Geography and have not attained the age of 32 years are invited from all over India and SAARC countries for the Young Geographer Award competition. A soft copy of the paper prepared according to the format of 'Punjab Geographer' should be submitted in English to **Dr. B.R. Thakur, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, H.P. University, Shimla (E-mail-brthakur53@gmail.com, Mob-09418065518** The participants are requested to visit www.apgorg.org for details of rules and regulations before submitting their paper to the coordinator.

Devinder Singh Raina Memorial Meritorious Student Award 2017

To promote the subject of Geography, the Association of Punjab Geographers has instituted Meritorious Student Award, in the memory of Devinder Singh Raina, Department of Geography, University of Jammu, Jammu.

Meritorious Student Award, 2017 was presented to Ms Garima Jasrotia, Department of Geography, University of Jammu for standing First in MA Geography Examination, 2017 of University of Jammu, Jammu, at 18th APG Meet and International Conference, held at LPU, Phagwara on 27-28 October, 2017.



Ms Garima Jasrotia receiving Meritorious Student Award

State Level Geographical Quiz Contest 2018

To involve almost all the colleges of the state teaching geography as a subject, the State Level Geographical Quiz Contest is now being conducted in two stages. This is done for a wider coverage and to make the subject more popular among students. In the first stage, Zonal Level Quiz Contest will be organized by different zones namely; Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Mohali, Patiala and Bathinda. The colleges with departments of geography in these zones will compete at Zonal Level. The winners at zonal level will compete for State Level at SCD Govt. College, Ludhiana. The zonal quiz is being conducted by BBK DAV College for Women, Amritsar, Doaba College, Jalandhar, SCD Govt. College, Ludhiana, Govt. College, Mohali, Govt. Mohindra College, Patiala and Baba Farid College, Deon, Bathinda. Zonal Level competition will be held between January 29 and February 10, 2018. The final Quiz Contest will be conducted in the third week of February, 2018 at SCD Govt. College, Ludhiana.

Punjab Geographer

Original research papers are invited for publication from the members. Members can contact Dr. H. S. Mangat, E-mail : editor@apgorg.org. Please visit website of APG: www.apgorg.org to see the guidelines for the authors and format of the paper.

News about the Members

Dr. Dharam Singh Sandhu, Principal SCD Govt. College, Ludhiana and President Elect APG has been conferred the prestigious 'State Award' in the field of Education for his outstanding contribution by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab, Capt. Amarinder Singh on 15th August, 2017 on the eve of the Independence Day celebrations at Gurdaspur.



Dr. Dharam Singh Sandhu receiving State Award from the Chief Minister, Punjab

Dr. Anuradha Sharma, has joined as Professor in the Department of Geography, University of Jammu.

Dr. Simrit Kahlon has taken over as Chairperson, Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Dr. Sarina Kalia has taken over as Dean Student Welfare, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur,

News from the Departments

Institute for Spatial Planning and Environment Research

ISPER is conducting two days National Seminar (21-22 April, 2018) on "Massive Urbanization Process and the Indian Society: Challenges and Response". For details visit www.isperonline.com.

Department of Geography, Panjab University Chandigarh

Jasmine S. Singh has been awarded Ph.D degree on the topic "Trends of Urbanization and Patterns of Distribution of Urban Centres in Punjab: 1971-2011," under the supervision of Professor, Samita Bhutani.

Ms Savita Ahlawat has been awarded Ph.D degree on the topic, "Spatial Patterns of Food Security in Kandi Belt of Punjab and Haryana", under the supervision of Professor Dhian Kaur.

Department of Geography, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

Mr. Surjit Singh Saini has been awarded Ph.D degree on the topic "Risk and Vulnerability Assessment of Floods in Ghaggar River Basin", under the supervision of Professor S.P. Kaushik.

Ms Amrita has been awarded Ph.D degree on the topic “Dynamics and Economy of Groundwater Resources in Haryana”, under the supervision of Professor Omvir Singh.

Department of Geography MD University, Rohtak

Ms Subodh Rani has been awarded Ph.D degree on the topic “Road Transportation Network and Regional Development in Haryana”, under the supervision of Professor K.V.Chamar.

Suman Gulia has been awarded Ph.D degree on the topic, “Changing Spatial Organisation of Rural Service Centers in Mahindergarh District”, under the supervision of Professor K. V. Chamar.

Geographical News

Receding glacier causes immense Canadian river to vanish in four days

An immense river that flowed from one of Canada's largest glaciers vanished over the course of four days last year, scientists have reported, in an unsettling illustration of how global warming dramatically changes the world's geography. The abrupt and unexpected disappearance of the Slims river, which spanned up to 150 metres at its widest points, is the first observed case of “river piracy”, in which the flow of one river is suddenly diverted into another. For hundreds of years, the Slims carried meltwater northwards from the vast Kaskawulsh glacier in Canada's Yukon territory into the Kluane river, then into the Yukon river towards the Bering Sea. But in spring 2016, a period of intense melting of the glacier meant the drainage gradient was tipped in favour of a second river, redirecting the meltwater to the Gulf of Alaska, thousands of miles from its original destination. *theguardian.com*

Giant Antarctic iceberg 'hanging by a thread', say scientists

A giant section of an Antarctic ice shelf is hanging by a thread and could break off at any moment, researchers have revealed. The split in the Larsen C ice shelf of the Antarctic peninsula will release a huge iceberg 5,000 sq km in size – an area about a quarter of the size of Wales. “The rift is nearly 200km long now, and it has turned towards the ice front, suggesting that it has only got that last piece to go – and that last section is only 13km,” said Professor Adrian Luckman, a scientist at Swansea University and leader of the UK's Midas project – an endeavour that has been monitoring the situation at the Larsen C ice shelf. *theguardian.com*

Early North American Settlers

Genetic evidence gleaned from the full genomic profile of the six week old girl and another infant suggests that the continent's first settlers arrived in a single migratory wave around 20900 years ago. All Native Americans can trace their ancestry to a single migration event that happened at the tail-end of the last Ice Age. These people migrated from Siberia into Alaska via an ancient land bridge known as Beringia the size of which was 1000kms at its widest extent. *Nature*

The 1883 Krakatoa Explosion Made the Loudest Sound in History

The loudest sound in history from a singular sonic event came as a consequence of the explosion of , one of the names (along with) that has become a byword for volcanic disaster. And with good cause: when it blew in modern-day Indonesia on Sunday, 26 August 1883, it caused not only 36,000 deaths at the very least and untold destruction of other kinds, but let out a sound heard 3,000 miles away.

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To,

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