

**23rd International Conference of Himalayan Languages
Symposium
July 5th to 7th, 2017**



**Organized by
The Department of English and Foreign Languages (Linguistics Wing)
Tezpur University,
Napaam, Sonitpur, Assam, India-784028**

The Himalayan languages broadly refer to the languages of north-western and north-eastern India, where languages of Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Tibeto-Burman, Austro-Asiatic, and Tai-Kadai linguistic stocks are spoken; the languages of Nepal, Bhutan and the Tibetan Plateau; the languages of northern Burma and Sichuan; and the languages of Nuristan, Baltistan and the Burushaski speaking area in the west. This area is known for its large scale of linguistic diversity where being multilingual is a need rather than an urge. Considering the huge diversity of ethno-linguistic peoples of this region and the 'contact' linguistic situation, it could be well assumed that different research insights may have emerged in the works of various scholars. The Himalayan Languages Symposium would provide a platform to discuss and share these linguistic aspects of Himalayan languages. The Himalayan Languages Symposium is a multidisciplinary conference that covers a broad range of topics of the Himalayan languages. As mentioned in the official website of Himalayan Languages Symposium (<http://www.himalayansymposium.org/>), contributions are welcome on any language of the greater Himalayan region, e.g. Burushaski, Kusunda, Tibeto-Burman, Indo-Iranian, Austroasiatic, Kradai, Andamanese, Nihali, Dravidian etc. Contributions are also invited from related disciplines such as history, anthropology, archaeology and prehistory focusing on the greater Himalayan region.

We are delighted to inform you that the 23rd Himalayan Languages Symposium will be held at the sprawling Tezpur University Campus, Tezpur, Assam, India from July 5th--7th, 2017, hosted by the Linguistics wing of the Department of English and Foreign Languages, School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS). This year at Tezpur University, we will pay special attention to the following areas of research in the Himalayan Languages:

- 1) Phonetics and Phonology
- 2) Cognitive Linguistics
- 3) Syntax
- 4) Semantics
- 5) Morphology
- 6) Language Technology Development
- 7) Natural Language Processing
- 8) Writing systems and typography
- 9) Language and Politics
- 10) Migration pattern of the greater Himalayan region
- 11) History of linguistic research in the Himalayan region
- 12) Speech Technology
- 13) Second Language Acquisition
- 14) Language Documentation
- 15) Sociolinguistics
- 16) Pragmatics
- 17) Psycho-linguistics / Neuro-linguistics

Submissions

We invite abstracts from scholars, academicians, language planners, community members and students. The abstract should be of not more than 350 words and it has to be submitted latest by 20th October, 2016 through an EasyChair account which is available in the link: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=hls23>. One can submit a maximum of 2 abstracts on two different topics, i.e. one single authored and the other joint.

All abstracts will be anonymously peer reviewed. Acceptance will be notified latest by 20th December, 2016. Authors whose abstracts are accepted will have to submit a short paper (Maximum 4 pages) on the concerned topic. The deadline of submission of such a paper will be 30th January 2017. Select papers are likely to be invited for submission as full length papers in a volume to be published after the conference.

Here is the Linguist List notification:

<http://linguistlist.org/callconf/browse-conf-action.cfm?ConfID=256836>

Registration and Accommodation

The local organizing committee of HLS23 has decided to keep the registration fees of the participants/presenters as follows:

Categories	India and SAARC countries	Countries other than SAARC
Post-Graduate students	500 INR	1500 INR or 25 USD
Research Scholars	1000 INR	1500 INR or 25 USD
Faculty Members/Other Participants	2000 INR	3500 INR or 55 USD

Please note that this registration fees include conference kit, working lunch, tea and snacks etc.

Accommodation will be provided in the University Guest House on twin sharing basis and in the hostels. Delegates are requested to meet lodging, travel and other incidental expenses from their own resources. Here is the link which has all the details:

http://www.tezu.ernet.in/guesthouse/rules_guest_house.htm

However, accommodation in the Guest House is subject to availability and the rates are subject to change as per University regulations. The students and research scholars will be accommodated in the hostels in the university campus.

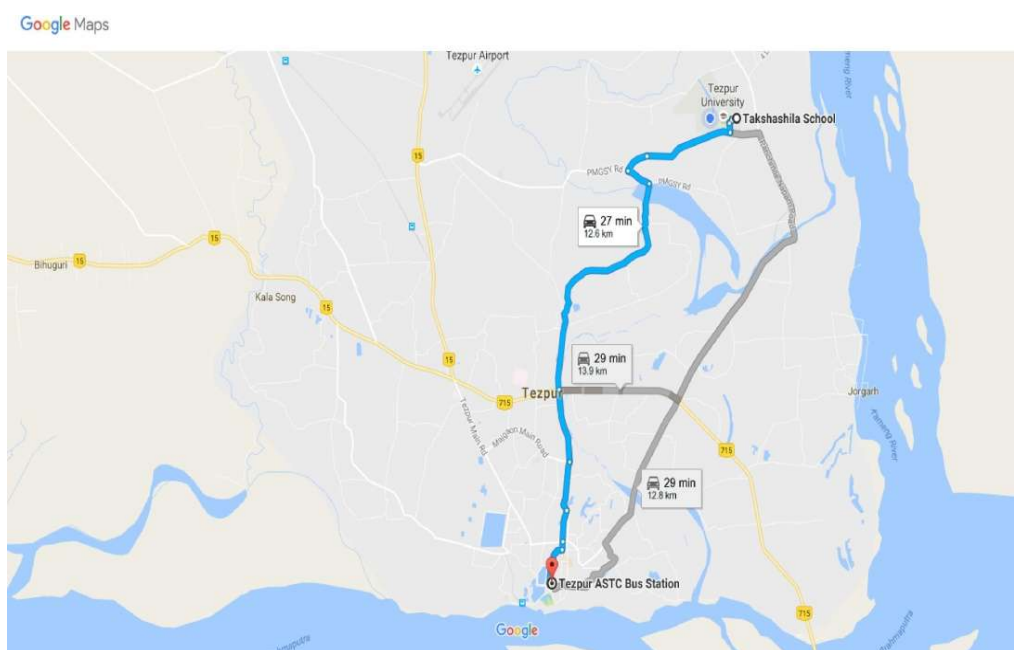
About Tezpur University:

Tezpur University was established by an Act of Parliament of India in 1994. Located in Tezpur, a historic town of Assam on the northern bank of the mighty Brahmaputra, the University has a scenic campus stretching over 262 acres of land filled with greenery. An outcome of the Assam movement, the University, one of the 46 Central Universities of the country, has found its niche in the national educational scenario with its dynamic and innovative methods of pedagogy and research. Recently, the University has been conferred with the Visitor's (President of India's) Best University Award, 2016 among all central universities of India. This was immediately followed by yet another honour: the first ever National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, ranked this University 5th among all the Institutions in India. The University has also found a place in the list of top 800 universities of the world as prepared by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings among the list of top 980 universities of the world, 2016-17. The University has also been accredited with an 'A' grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council in 2016. Currently, the University offers 70 academic programmes through 20 Departments under the Schools of Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences, Management, and Sciences. With 3800 students, 260 faculty members and 280 administrative and technical personnel, the University today has emerged as a leading centre of quality activities in higher education and research. The University has got a world class infrastructure, part of which is 15 hostels for girls and boys and an international standard guest house with a capacity for over 100.

How to reach Tezpur?

Tezpur is situated on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra. Tezpur is well connected to Guwahati, the capital city of Assam, both by road and railways. There are two roads to

Tezpur from Guwahati, one via Nagaon, the other via Mangaldoi. The second road is slightly shorter than the first one, but the first one perhaps is the better. The distance between Tezpur and Guwahati is 190 kilometres, and it takes around four hours by bus. Buses are available from the Guwahati Railway Station to Tezpur from 5 am to 8 pm. The bus fare is around Rs 250. On reaching Tezpur, participants may avail of the University bus service at the Tezpur Bus Station to come to the University campus (by paying Rs 20), or hire an auto (by paying Rs 150). Instead of travelling up to the Tezpur Bus Station they may also get down at the Parowa Charali (some 7 kilometres ahead of the Tezpur Bus Station), from where they can take an auto to the University campus by paying Rs 100. Participants can also hire an (app-based) shared taxi at Guwahati or the Guwahati Airport to reach the Tezpur University campus direct by paying a maximum of Rs 3,500. Below is the Google map showing the Tezpur bus station –Tezpur University route.



Advisory Committee:

- 1) Prof. Van Driem, University of Berne, Switzerland
- 2) Prof. Anvita Abbi, Formerly at JNU
- 3) Prof. U.N.Singh, Visva Bharati University
- 4) Prof. Pramod Pandey, JNU, New Delhi
- 5) Prof. Madhavan, EFLU, Hyderabad
- 6) Dr. Niladri Shekhar Das, ISI, Kolkata
- 7) Dr Umarani Pappuswamy, NEHU, Shillong
- 8) Prof. Shyamal Das, Tripura University
- 9) Prof. Yashwanta Singh, Manipur University
- 10) Prof. Mina Dan, University of Calcutta
- 11) Dr Priyankoo Sarma, IIT Guwahati
- 12) Dr Shakuntala Mahanta, IIT Guwahati
- 13) Dr Gail Coelho, University of Delhi
- 14) Dr Mark Turin, University of British Columbia, Canada

Important Dates

Conference Dates: 5th to 7th July, 2017

Deadline for submission of abstract: 20th October, 2016

Notification of Selection: 20th December, 2016

Deadline for submission of short papers is 30th January 2017

Local Organizing Committee:

Chairperson: Prof. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri, Vice Chancellor, Tezpur University

Co-ordinator: Prof. Madhumita Barbora

Joint Co-ordinator: Prof. Gautam K Borah

Members: Dr Arup Kumar Nath, Ms Bipasha Patgiri, Dr Amalesh Gope, Dr Dhanapati Shougrakpam, Dr Bobita Sarangthem, Dr Monali Longmalai. Email:

Himalayan.linguistics23@gmail.com