

# Two Day National Seminar

On

## Social Justice and Inclusion: Challenges and Prospects for Marginalized Communities

February 02-03, 2026

**Maulana Azad National Urdu University**  
Hyderabad, Telangana

Organised by:

**Al Beruni Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion (ABCSSI)**  
Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad

## About the Seminar

Social justice and inclusion are indispensable cornerstones of a democratic society. They affirm the values of equality, equity, dignity and human rights that the Indian Constitution enshrines. While India has witnessed significant progress in areas such as education, health and representation of marginalized groups, the persistence of structural inequalities continues to undermine the very ideals of justice. Caste hierarchies, patriarchal norms, religious polarization, economic inequalities and regional disparities have resulted in systemic marginalization of Dalits, Tribals, women, religious and linguistic minorities, persons with disabilities and LGBTQ+ individuals. Many of these Socially and Economically Disadvantage Groups (SEDGs) remain on the periphery of development and nation-building, often excluded from quality education, secure employment, affordable healthcare, political participation and cultural recognition.

Contemporary transformations including rapid urbanization, globalization, technological advances and climate change pose both challenges and opportunities. For example, digital technologies can enable access and empowerment, yet the “digital divide” often reproduces exclusion. Similarly, welfare schemes are introduced to promote social justice, but gaps in governance and implementation limit their reach.

This seminar intends to open up a dialogue that bridges theory, research and practice by interrogating the challenges of exclusion while also envisioning the prospects of inclusion. It emphasizes that social justice is not only about redistribution of resources but also about recognition, representation and equal participation of marginalized voices in shaping India’s future. In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (especially SDG-10: Reduced Inequalities) and “Viksit Bharat 2047”, the Seminar highlights the urgency of inclusive pathways for sustainable and equitable growth.

In this backdrop, the Al Beruni Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion, Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), Hyderabad, is organizing a Two-Day National Seminar on “Social Justice and Inclusion: Challenges and Prospects for Marginalized Communities” on February 02-03, 2026.

## Objectives of the Seminar

The seminar aims to critically examine the barriers to inclusion faced by marginalized communities in India and to explore the role of law, policy and social movements in advancing social justice. It will highlight pressing challenges such as economic exclusion, cultural stereotyping and the digital divide while providing a platform for scholars, researchers, academics, policymakers and practitioners to share empirical studies and theoretical perspectives. The ultimate objective is to generate innovative strategies and policy recommendations that can foster inclusive and equitable development rooted in dignity and justice.

## Themes of the Seminar

### 1. Theoretical and Conceptual Dimensions

- Understanding Social Justice: Philosophical and Constitutional Perspectives
- Inclusion and Exclusion: Theories, Practices and Debates
- Social Justice in the Era of Globalization and Neoliberalism

### 2. Caste, Community and Exclusion

- Dalits, Adivasis, and Access to Education and Employment
- Caste-Based Discrimination in Contemporary India
- Social Exclusion of Religious and Linguistic Minorities
- Everyday Practices of Untouchability and Violence

### 3. Gender and Inclusion

- Women and Social Justice: Challenges of Representation and Participation
- Intersectionality: Gender, Caste, Class and Religion
- LGBTQ+ Rights and Inclusion in Policy and Society
- Gendered Dimensions of Economic and Social Exclusion

### 4. Education, Economy and Development

- Access to Higher Education for Marginalized Communities
- Affirmative Action and Reservation Policies: Achievements and Gaps
- Inclusive Economic Policies and Labor Market Challenges
- Impact of International Trade and Globalization on Marginalized Sections

### 5. Emerging Challenges

- Digital Divide and Technological Exclusion
- Climate Justice and Marginalized Communities
- Urban Marginality: Migrants, Informal Workers and Slum Dwellers
- Disability Rights and Inclusive Governance

### 6. Policy, Law, and Governance

- Social Justice and the Indian Constitution
- Role of Judiciary in Advancing Inclusion
- Inclusive Public Policy: Strengths, Weaknesses and Gaps
- Governance, Welfare Schemes and Grassroots Challenges

## Expected Outcomes

- **Scholarly Insights:** Critical perspectives on the persistence of marginalization and the evolving discourse on social justice.
- **Policy Directions:** Evidence-based suggestions to strengthen existing welfare measures and design innovative strategies for inclusion.
- **Practical Frameworks:** Approaches to bridge educational, economic and digital gaps faced by marginalized communities.
- **Collaborative Dialogue:** Engagement among academics, policymakers, practitioners and civil society for future partnerships.
- **Knowledge Dissemination:** Compilation of seminar proceedings for wider academic and policy reference.

## Call for Papers

The Centre invites original, unpublished papers from scholars, researchers, practitioners, academicians, policymakers and students that address issues related to social justice and inclusion. Papers may be theoretical, conceptual or empirical and may focus on:

- Case studies of marginalized communities from different regions of India.
- Comparative studies highlighting cross-state or international experiences of social justice.
- Critical policy analysis exploring gaps in implementation and potential reforms.
- Thematic reflections on the challenges and prospects of inclusion in the 21st century.

## Submission Guidelines

### Abstracts

- Abstract length: **300–350 words**
- Deadline: **January 05, 2026**
- Submission Email: **cssiseminar2025@gmail.com**
- Cover Page must include:
  - Theme and Sub-theme
  - Title of the Paper
  - Author Name(s)
  - Designation and Institutional Affiliation
  - E-mail, Postal Address and Contact Number
- Only selected abstracts will be invited for presentation.

### Full Paper Submission

- Word limit: **3000–4000 words**
- Font: Times New Roman, Size 12 (main text), Size 10 (notes)
- Line spacing: 1.5 (main text), 1.0 (endnotes)
- Margins: 1 inch on all sides
- Reference Style: **APA 7th Edition**
- File Format: .doc / .pdf
- File Naming Convention: Author name + Title of Paper
- Submission Deadline: **January 25, 2026** (with subject line “SUBMISSION OF FULL PAPER”)

### Seminar Director / Convener

**Prof. Danish Moin**

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