

# **Report of the International Conference on Asian Values and Human Future, 7-9 July 2015**

The International Conference on *Asian Values and Human Future* (7-9 July, 2015) unfolded with an Inaugural session, a plenary session and six technical sessions stretched over 3 days. The Chief Guest was Justice K. Sreedhar Rao, Chief Justice (Acting) of Guwahati High Court and the Guest of Honour was Smti. BismitaGogoi, Honourable Minister of Culture of Assam. Cultures of North East India were presented in Song and Dance and a Cultural Exhibition also was inaugurated by Smti BismitaGogoi as a fitting conclusion to the inaugural function.

A total of 21 papers were deliberated and discussed over. At the plenary session, Prof. T. Menampampil delivered the key note address and Prof. Edward J. Alam deliberated on “Role of Asia in the Quest for Global Justice”, with Prof. Corazon Toralba as the chair person.

The first technical session was chaired by Prof. Dhruva J. Saika, Hon’ble vice-chancellor of Cotton College State University. The theme of the session was **Asian Values: A Way Forward for Human Future**. Three eminent scholars presented their papers, which was followed by elaborate discussions and deliberations on each paper.

The second technical session with the theme **Asian Reality and Probity in Public Life** was chaired by Dr. Joshua Thomas, Deputy Director, ICSSR-NERC. This session witnessed a brilliant presentation by a Historian, a sociologist and a Philosopher. The papers presented invited an engaging discussion.

The third and fourth technical sessions were combined making the third session chaired by Prof. Trophy D’ Souza. This session also saw three well research papers presented and elaborated discussion on the papers. The Themes of the session was **Emerging Perspectives and Transformation of Values and Fellowship and Fellowshiping of Cultures and Values**.

The 9<sup>th</sup> of July, Ms Yogini Nath, chaired the fourth session on the theme, **New Age Values and Spirituality for Human Future**. Three scholars deliberated on the theme, which was followed by discussion and clarification.

The theme, **Strident Nationalism and Identity Construction** with three presenters and discussion was chaired by Prof. Edward J. Alam. This formed the fifth session.

The last technical session of the conference was chaired by Prof. Siddharth Singh, with the theme **Values in Conflict Transformation**. The session witnessed 5 papers with active discussions.

The conference on “*Asian Values and Human Future*” was well represented by scholars from Macua, South Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Mexico, Bangladesh, Lebanon, Thailand and India. A nine member Chinese delegates from Hubei University and Zhongnan University of Economics and Law were late for the conference due to travel related issues. Nevertheless a special session was arranged for them the day after the conference i.e., 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2015. Thus the conference had representations from 20 Universities and 10 institutions from different parts of the globe.

The Conference “Asian Values and Human Future” was organised by ADBU in collaboration with Hubei University and Cotton State University with Department of Culture, Government of Assamas the conference partner and supported by ICPR-New Delhi, ICSSR-New Delhi-NERC and NEEPCO.

The valedictory session of the conference was chaired by Prof. Stephen Mavely, Vice-Chancellor of Assam Don Bosco University. The conference concluded with a joint declaration known as the ‘Guwahati Declaration, 2015’, signed by the participants.