

20th Annual National Virtual Science Fiction Conference

Organized by

Indian Association for Science Fiction
Studies ®, Bangalore, Karnataka

Indian Science Fiction Writers
Association, Ayodhya, Uttara Pradesh

Kalpabishwas & Kalpabigyan,
Kolkata, West Bengal

Marathi Vidnyan Parishad, Mumbai,
MS &

Host Institution: Deogiri College,
Aurangabad, MS

Date: August 30-31, 2021

Conference Theme

Indian Science Fiction

About the Conference

IASFS has organized 14 National and 5 International Science Fiction Conferences at different locations in India. It has encompassed all branches of knowledge to one stream namely, “All Roads Lead to Science Fiction” Hence, it has overcome the barriers of age, gender, caste, religion, nationality, race, position, profession, departments, subjects, and others. Presently, with the impact of science and technology, SF is the study the change in the attitude of man attempting to lessen the *Future Shock*.

Indian Science Fiction is unique in combining the myth with technology to find plausible solutions for the contemporary societal problems projecting them to future time and space.

The host college has already made preparations to hold the virtual

interactive live sessions from conference inaugural function to valedictory function. Paper Presentations, Plenary Sessions. Panel Discussion and Special Lectures will all be live.

(Those who are outside the country; those who are engaged otherwise during the scheduled time slot for various reasons; and those who will have technical problems could send pre-recorded videos)

The linkage for the video recordings of this event will be made available in the “Library” section of the website: <https://iasfs.in>; after 15.09.2021.

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Registration and Fees

All (Not only delegates but also others) are requested to register for the conference by filling the form: <https://forms.gle/6D2B8bQayneFRSrr6>;

NO REGISTRATION FEE FOR ANY ONE

Please join the conference what's app group to know the updates: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/ByxsZqePC103bigBSqiOsT>;

Login Details

The login id and password will remain the same for all the sessions on both the days of the conference. They will be shared a day earlier over the registered emails and over the what's app group: National SF Conference.

Publication

All research papers, reviews, book introductions, SF stories, and others related to science fiction in English, Hindi, Marathi language will be accepted for publication.

They will be published in an online ISBN numbered Peer-reviewed UGC listed journal by the host College.

The length of the paper must at least e one page and there is no restriction on the maximum number of pages.

Rules of plagiarism, copy-right & IPR acts, MLA research methodology are applicable.

One can publish a maximum of two items in the same name: Fees prescribed here under is for a single paper/story publication.

The profile, abstract and the contact details along with the paper may all be sent together in a single mail.

They could be sent to sfnationalconf2021@gmail.com; on or before **Wednesday 15.09.2021** for publication.

Fees for publication

INR 1000/- for publication + INR 180 (GST) = **Total INR 1180/-** (Rupees One Thousand one Hundred and Eighty only) to be remitted to the following bank account on or before 15.09.2021.

Account Holder's Name:

Principal, Deogiri College,
Aurangabad

Account No: 068011100003521

RTGS/ NEFT/ IFSC Code:

ABHY0065113

Name of the Bank: Abhyudaya Co-Operative Bank Ltd., (Multi-State Scheduled Bank), Railway Station Road, Aurangabad

Branch: Shop No. 1 & 2, Labh Pearl,
Besides Hotel Vits, Railway Station
Road, Aurangabad- 431005
Maharashtra, India.

All the payment made for the publication will be refunded if the paper/story is found to be not suitable for publication by the peer-review committee. No correspondence is entertained in this matter. Decision taken by the Convener would be final.

All correspondences must be made addressing the Convener over the conference email id: sfnationalconf2021@gmail.com.

In case of emergency contact the Convener of the Conference: Dr. Balaji A Navle: +919860447457; +919284894447.

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Highlights

Special Lectures:

1. Dr. Bal Phondke, Formerly Nuclear Biologist, BARC, Formerly Chairman, Former Director, Publication & Information, CSIR, Former Science Editor, “Times of India”, Editor, *Science Today*, Chief Editor of *It Happened Tomorrow*, Eminent first row Indian Science Fiction Writer, Mumbai, MH.

Topic: Indian Science Fiction – Today and Tomorrow.

2. Dr. Arvind Mishra, Secretary, ISFWA, Ayodhya

Topic: Science Fiction Ideas in Indian Mythology.

3. Mr. GS Unnikrishnan Nair, Trivandrum, Kerala, Former Additional Director of

Agriculture, Government of Kerala, National and International Documentary Awardee.

Topic: “Farmland reforms and the outcome of the study of the Tribal People in Kerala state: A Film Maker’s Perspective and A Brief Account of Malayalam Science Fiction.”

Keynote address

Mr. Dinker Charak, Entrepreneur & Product Manager, Bangalore. and Webmaster:

[https://www.adbhut.in/;](https://www.adbhut.in/)

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Journal Release

Release of the Journal: *Insight*: Special issue Peer reviewed, ISSN numbered journal of scholarly papers

of Science fiction presented during the 19th International Science Fiction Conference held during December 2020.

Chief Editor's Remarks: Dr. Sowmya Murukesh, Chief Editor and Publisher, University Research Publications, North Mazhuvannoor P.O, Valamboor, Ernakulum, Kerala State.

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Science/Science Fiction Authors Speak

Topic: "My Recently Published Science/Science Fiction Work"

Authors

1. Dr. Shantala, Gynecologist and SF Writer, Bangalore, Karnataka. "My

Recently released *3019 AD* hardcopy, e-book and audio version."

2. Dr. Kiran Kumar Singh, Professor of Civil Engineering (Rtd), SF Writer, Agra, UP. "My recently published *The Five Friends: Battle Against Aliens*.

3. Mrs. Archana Mirajkar, SF writer, Canadian Consulate in India, New Delhi

4. Dr. Zeashan Zaidi, Eminent Hindi SF writer, Assistant Professor, Era's Medical College, Lucknow, UP, "My Sci-fi 2021."

5. Dr. Ranjan Garge, Director, COSMOS, Principal (Rtd), SF writer, Aurangabad, MH. "*Wi-Fi to Sci-Fi* and other Science and Science Fiction Works."

6. Mr. Pradip Sengupta, SF writer and translator, West Bengal, "Geo-Science Fiction: A Critical Overview."

7. Dr. Ravi Kopparapu, Planetary Scientist, NASA, Washington DC, USA. "A Scientist's Journey into Science Fiction."

8. Dr. Nilesh Malvankar – USA

9. Mrs. Pragnya Goutham – Rajasthan

10. Mr. Rishab Dubey – Lucknow, UP. "My SF Work *Krikos*."

11. Mrs. Kalpna Kulshresta, Aligarh, UP

12. Dr. Urvashi Kuhad – New Delhi

13. Mr. Aad Ram Nayak, Rajasthan, "My Hindi Science Fiction Novel *Scientific Mind* (2020).

14. Mr. Shirish Nadkarni, Mumbai, MH. "My Science fiction humorous Works."

15. Mrs. Savitha Srinivas IPS Bangalore. My Recently published *Triloka Sanchari Neere*."

16. Mr. Harish Goyal Rajasthan. “An Overview of My Experiments with Science Fiction Themes.”

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Special Attraction

Monday August 30, 2021 18.45 hours

(Same id and password)

Magic Show: Mentalism and Science Fiction:

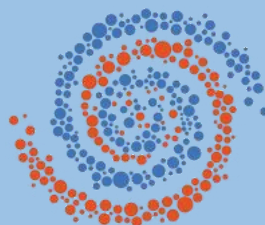
Mr. Harish Yadav, Former Chief Manager, Dena Bank, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Magician, Mentalist & Science Communicator.

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Valedictory Address

Dr. AP Jayaraman is the former Nuclear Scientist (BARC), Chairman, National Science Communicators, Mumbai, Trustee Indian Development Foundation, President, Academy for STEAM, Eminent orator, Educationist, Mumbai, MH.

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Indian Association for Science Fiction Studies

IASFS was established on Asimov’s birthday on January 2, 1998. The day not only marks the Isaac Asimov’s birthday but also it coincides with the centenary publication of Indian Science Fiction story “Agosh” by Scientist Jagadish

Chandra Bose. The objectives of the Association are to provide material and guidance to students who would pursue their research for their Masters and Doctoral degrees in the field of Science Fiction and to provide a platform for the SF enthusiasts to share their views in the form of presenting papers during the annual Conferences. From its inception, IASFS has organized 14 National and 5 International Science Fiction conferences at different locations in India. The first conference was attended only by a dozen delegates. But from the second conference there was no turning back. The Association had begun to collaborate with many Colleges, Universities, Local Bodies and Institutions in organizing conferences. Hence, it could bring together hundreds of academicians, scholars, scientists, writers, publishers, critics, movie makers, journalists, fans, webmasters, industrialists, technologists, farmers and readers. So far the Annual Conferences were held at Chennai, Coimbatore, Gandhigram, Gudiattam and Vellore in Tamil Nadu, Bangalore (National Conference normal mode Year 2001) and (International Conference virtual mode Year 2020) and Yelahatti and Mysore in Karnataka, Varanasi in UP, Aurangabad and Pune in Maharashtra States, Pondicherry a Union Territory and Ernakulum in Kerala State in India. During the annual

conferences, participants have shown keen interest in discussing the following topics: the forms of science fiction, Artificial Intelligence, Cinema and SF, "Science Fiction Film : Seventy Years of Synergy, 1926 to 2003", Aliens, A Tribute to Kalpana Chawla, Technology and Science Fiction, Fantasy, Genetic Engineering, Hindi SF, Indian Responses to World SF, Indian SF in Vernacular languages, Literary Criticism on Indian SF, Myth, Fantasy, Utopia, Feminism, Colonialism, Popular Science, Genetic Engineering, Robotics, Media and SF, Information Technology, Nanotechnology, Print versus Visual SF, Science and Science Fiction, Space travel, Time, Science Fiction Today, Science Today, SF and Mainstream Fiction, Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary prospective, SF Narration, SF the Human Aspect, Women in Science Fiction, SF & Technology and others. Each conference had plenary sessions and story reading sessions by respective authors in addition to paper presentation. IASFS had also arranged an SF Story Writing Workshop conducted by Eric Miller and story reading session by respective SF writers. The association had a video conference with Professor James E Gunn Director, Center for Science Fiction Studies, Kansas University, Kansas, USA.

The Association publishes quarterly magazine entitled *Indian Journal of Science Fiction Studies*. It comprises of papers and stories presented in the previous conferences, review of books, and an interaction by the readers. This non-profitable association is registered under Karnataka Societies Registration Act. The Registered office is at # A 107, DS Max Signature, LKR Nagar, Devnagar, Near Aadhar Data center, Bangalore -560094.

The Life Membership is open for all. The Secretary – General of the Association could be reached over mail: iasfsindia@gmail.com; Website: <https://iasfs.in>;

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Indian Science Fiction Writers' Association, Ayodhya, UP

ISFWA is an autonomous organization which was established in 1995. The headquarters of the association is the said birthplace of Lord Rama. It has organized more than a dozen science fiction writing workshops in various parts of India in collaboration with NCSTC, DST (GOI) It's quarterly publication of SF stories' *Vignyan Katha* is pioneer work in India. Its present President is Dr. Rajiv Ranjan Upadhaya and Dr.

Arvind Mishra is Secretary who could be contacted at meghdootmishra@gmail.com; Presently ISFWA has closed ordinary/general membership. However, Life membership of the society is open only for those who have put in outstanding contributions in the enrichment of the genre. ISFWA organized successfully the 17th ISF conference at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

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Marathi Vidnyan Parishad, Mumbai

Marathi Vidnyan Parishad (MaViPa) is involved in propagating science in society. In Maharashtra, MaViPa works mainly in Marathi. However, programmes are also conducted in English, whenever required. Registered under Society Registration Act: BOM 81/66/GBBSD (Date - 12-8- 1966), Bombay Public trust Act: F-1429/BOM (Date - 6-9-1966), FCRA Certificate no.: 084020008 (Date - 14/05/2012), (Donors can claim Income Tax rebate under clause 80G of Income Tax Act) MaViPa works with objectives such as: To disseminate scientific knowledge mainly through Marathi language, To enrich the Marathi language for the expression of scientific thought, To enhance the importance of science in life, To contribute to research and advancement of science. MaViPa

has total 64 chapters in Maharashtra. In addition, it has 4 Chapters outside Maharashtra. This includes Goa, Belgaum, Vadodara and Bhopal Chapters. These Chapters work through languages like Konkani, Kannada, Gujarati and di, respectively, along with Marathi and English. MaViPa is a recipient of 1992 National Science Award from Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

FIE Foundation has also felicitated MaViPa. Marathi Vidnyan Parishad Patrika has been awarded Best Magazine by Maharashtra Foundation in the year 1998. Marathi Vidnyan Parishad Patrika has been awarded 'Kavivarya Mangesh Padgaokar Bhasha Sanvardhan Puraskar' by Governmaent of Maharashtra in the year 2018. MaViPa trustee board consists of following 7 members: Dr. Jayant Narlikar, Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Sh. Prabhakar Deodhar, Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Sh. Pramod Lele, Smt. Achala Joshi, Dr. Vijaya Wad. Prof. J. B. Joshi (Ex-Director, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai) is President of Marathi Vidnyan Parishad. Managing committee of MaViPa is comprised of 23 members. Office bearers include five vice-presidents, three secretaries and a treasurer. In addition, each MaViPa chapter has one representative on managing committee. The managing committee meets twice in a year in Mumbai. Managing committee has appointed a

standing committee for operational convenience. Standing committee consists of all office bearers of MaViPa and managing committee members staying in Mumbai. This committee meets once in every month. MaViPa has a permanent staff of 15 members to execute the programmes chalked out by the managing committee. Managing committee members are working voluntarily for MaViPa. Annual turnover of the organization is around Rs. 50 lakhs. Main sources of income for the organization include donations from individuals as well as institutes, programme fees, subscription from members and to some extent advertisements for Patrika. MaViPa is a science propagating organization, working prominently in Maharashtra since 1966. While organizing lectures, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, essay competitions, MaViPa started conducting SF story writing competitions since 1970. Thus, it has created writer ship and readership of SF. Dr. Jayant Narlikar, Dr. Bal Phondke, Mr. Laxman Londhe, Dr. Niranjana Ghate, Mr. Subhodh Jawdekar, who are the frontliners in SF story writing in Marathi language today, have all participated in the competitions of MaViPa and won the prizes.

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Kalpabiswa

Kalpabiswa.com is a quarterly web magazine dedicated to the genre of speculative fiction and fantasy in Bengali language. Established in 2016, it is the only web-magazine dedicated to the mentioned genre in any Indian vernacular language. It is a not-for-profit organization and all its content is available free of charge in the website www.kalpabiswa.com. In course of its existence Kalpabiswa has both provided a platform to neophyte authors interested in the genre to express their creative works as well as done pioneering work in a number of areas of science fiction among the web-magazines in Indian languages. It has published theme-based issues on a number of topics like Russian Science Fiction, Japanese Science Fiction, Lovecraftian Cosmic horror/fantasy, cli-fi, punk sci-fi literature to name a few, all of which are the first such attempts in any Indian vernacular language as per our knowledge. Along with this, Kalpabiswa has also been relentless in finding and restoring valuable pieces of works done in the area of Science Fiction in bygone era especially by the stalwarts of Bengali Science Fiction literature during the decades of 60s and 70s, perceived golden age of Bengali science fiction. Apart from publication of literary works, Kalpabiswa has also been involved in other academic activities like organizing first ever seminar on science fiction in eastern India in

collaboration with Jadavpur University, Kolkata to commemorate 200th anniversary of “Frankenstein the modern Prometheus”, arranging regular meets and expert talks to understand and share ideas around recent developments and trends in the areas of Speculative Fiction etc.

In 2018, Kalpabiswa has forayed into publishing printed titles as a fully functional publication house with a vision to enrich the body of work in Bengali/Indian science fiction by providing opportunity to the new and upcoming authors to reach out to a wider reader base as well as restore the lost works of masters of Bengali science fiction of bygone era. Kalpabiswa is also a pioneering name in the field of Bengali e-book and Audiobook publications. Our mission is to grow beyond the boundaries of Bengal and reach out to the pan India and international audience and make the world take note of the plethora of hidden gems that Indian science fiction has produced so far.

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Deogiri College, Aurangabad, MS

Affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Deogiri College,

Aurangabad, Maharashtra, is a part of Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, the oldest and the biggest educational establishment in the region. DCA is at the top in Marathwada region with A++ grade accredited by the NAAC and recognized as College with Potential for Excellence by the UGC. Right from the very establishment it has been undertaking novel programs for the enlightenment of students, teachers and the society in general. The college runs 16 UG Programs, 24 PG Programs and provides research facilities through the university recognized Research Centers for Ph. D. in the subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Mathematics, Geology, Commerce, Sociology, Marathi, Hindi, English, Psychology, and Political Science. Central library is enriched with 130100 books, about 2030+journals and periodicals for ready references. Library has 2 specious reading halls which are favorite destinations for talented and hard-working students. More than 43472570+ eBooks, 58031+e-journals are made available for students, hence they earnestly avail internet & CD's/DVD's library facilities. Other services like paper clipping, references, CAS, and photocopies are also provided. Library provides not only syllabus books but also competitive examination books to visually impaired students in audio format in memory card on the mobile

phone. The college has campus with full of beauty and bounty of about 13 acres in the heart of the city with fine research and sports facilities and well preserved play-ground. It has independent buildings for degree and higher secondary classes with spacious classrooms, well equipped laboratories, library with two reading halls, symposium hall, assembly hall, computer laboratories with an independent express feeder-line electricity connection. Virtual class room for UG & PG classes, with multimedia facilities are available as the mark of ideal teaching-learning conditions. It has also independent laboratory buildings for science subjects with separate well-furnished and highly equipped laboratories with uninterrupted power backup for UG & PG classes and for research activities are available. The college, a center with 764 Computers, Server, Scanner, Printers with 24 hrs. internet facility, is a mark of ICT based teaching. College has UGC sponsored Instrumentation Maintenance Facility (IMF) to maintain college laboratory instruments. The other vital salient features of the said college include: Six Separate hostel buildings with modern facilities for students (boys and girls) are available. Two independent N.C.C. units for boys and girls working efficiently at state and national level. The N.C.C. units are known for participation in Republic Day Parade and

different expeditions. Three units of N.S.S. are engaged in useful social services. The college provides all the necessary facilities to sports persons of the college. It is proud of its 18 students who bagged Shivchhatrapati Award in various games. Furthermore, several Gold, Silver and Bronze medals at state and national level competitions have been seized by college students. Some other important features are: Gandhian Study Center; Phule-Shahu-Ambedkar lecture series since the academic year 1991 -92; Women Empowerment Cell; Earn and Learn Scheme Counseling center for students. Last but not the least, the college has a reputed Centre for Campus Interviews and immediate Placements. National and international companies conduct placement drives in the college and offer jobs immediately with attractive salary. The College is ever in close contact with potentially job assigning companies. The college has an independent Training & Placement cell for employment. More than 300 students are placed in the year 2019-2020 in various companies. The college has four Language & Literature Depts. (Sanskrit, English, Hindi& Marathi) having UG & PG courses and Ph. D. Research Centers run through highly experienced and research oriented faculty. To maintain the march towards excellence the institution has planned to enter

into persistent collaborations, linkages, and MoUs with par-excellent literary and scientific institutes and organizations like Marathi Vidnyan Parishad, the reputed apex scientific and literary forum perpetually working exclusively for the cause of science and literature and have been inculcating scientific, literary, professional, corporate, spiritual and especially constitutional values and ethics among students, teachers and society in general.

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Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Aurangabad

Having established in 1959 by Late Mr. Vinayakrao Pandurang Patil, Mr. Dadasaheb Sawant and their colleagues, the Mandal under the leadership of the Secretary, Mr. Satish Chavan has been leading the academic world in providing educational services to the socially and economically backward classes for more than one lakh students in 136 branches in five districts of the State. The Mandal is also channelizing its resources to strengthen the career oriented as well as technical and management streams of education for providing highly skilled human resource through self-

employment potential. Website: www.mspmandal.co.in.

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Patrons

- Mr. Prakash Sundarrao Solanke, President, M.S.P. Mandal, Aurangabad
- Mr. Satish Bhanudasrao Chavan, Secretary, M.S.P. Mandal, & M.L.C

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- Prof. DilipKhairnar; &
- Dr. Anil Ardad.
Vice-Principals
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Dr. Vishnu Patil,
Dr. Rajesh Shesham
(Department of English, Deogiri College)
Dr. Kailash Atkare
(Department of English, DIEMS)
Aurangabad.

Convener

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Mr. Abhishek Kumar Mishra, Srinagar, Jammu

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You are welcome.

-Team of Organizers, Principal, Convener,
Team Deogiri College and Students.

Thank You