



सत्यं शिवं सुन्दरम्
Estd. 1949
Accredited Grade "A+" by NAAC



Department of Dance
Faculty of Performing Arts
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda
to Celebrate 75 Years of its establishment

Organizes an

International Seminar
(Hybrid Mode)

in collaboration with

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

on

**Ancient and Modern Literature in Performing and
Visual Arts and its Practice**

Date: 20th & 21st February 2026



Chief Patron
Rajmata Shubhangini Raje Gaekwad
Honorable Chancellor
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda



Patron
Prof. Bhalchandra M. Bhanage
Honorable Vice Chancellor
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda

Dr. Ami Pandya
Convener

Dr. Preeti Damle
Coordinator

Dr. Smruti Vaghela
Head
Department of Dance - FPA

Prof. Gaurang Bhavsar
Director
Dean - FPA (MSU)

Venue

Concert Hall, Faculty of Performing Arts, Opp. Sursagar Lake, Vadodara - 390001.

About the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda

The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda (MSU), established on 30th April 1949, was envisioned by H. H. Maharaja Pratapsinhrao Gaekwad and is rooted in the legacy of H. H. Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, who founded institutions like Baroda College (1881) and Kala Bhavan (1909). Recognized under the Indian Universities Act, 1958, and accredited with an 'A+' grade by NAAC, MSU is a premier residential university offering education in diverse fields such as Arts, Science, Commerce, Engineering, Management, Education, Law, Fine Arts, Performing Arts, and Social Work. With 14 faculties, 3 constituent colleges, 111 departments, and over 47,000 students. The university provides modern facilities including hostels, a central library with over 8 lakh books, sports complexes, observatory, botanical garden, and digital student services. MSU maintains active industry and global academic collaborations, supports start-ups, promotes student leadership, and played a pioneering role in adopting online education during the pandemic while actively implementing the National Education Policy.

Glorious 140 Years of Faculty of Performing Arts

The Faculty of Performing Arts, formerly known as College of Indian Music, Dance and Dramatics was established as “GAYAN SHALA” in February 1886 by great visionary, His Highness late Maharaja Sir, Sayajirao Gaekwad - III with veteran Sufi scholar and Sitarist Khan Saheb Maulabaksh as its founder principal.

It is a foremost constituent of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara – established in 1950. It remains one of the pioneer institutions imparting training at the university level in Performing Arts viz. Music, Dance and Dramatics offering UG, PG Degree and Ph. D. programme, as also diploma courses in the subject. Over the years, it has nurtured a number of aspiring artists wanting to pursue Performing Arts as a profession.

The potential training is towards developing both creative and intuitive abilities in the students where by attaining a systematic understanding of the art and science of the performing arts and its aesthetic applications which enables them to respond to changing times of the contemporary society.

It is our constant endeavour to create and stoke the thirst of knowledge a student possesses and to provide an unbiased environment that encourages the assimilation, dissemination and generation of new ideas and understanding. We aim to stimulate and foster the latent curiosity in every young individual and wish to create artistes and practitioners.

We are focused on teaching and academic excellence, we also believe in constantly being engaged in performing. We not only participate but also create a platform for art events, festivals, workshops, seminars, research and outreach programmes to benefit local communities. This small but vibrant faculty has contributed significantly towards creating such socio-cultural awareness.

The faculty enjoys a status of unique Centre of Performing Arts globally engaged in its mission of defining cultural dynamism of Indian classical arts.

Glorious 75 Years of Department of Dance

Established in July 1950, the Department of Dance became part of the College of Indian Music, Dance and Dramatics, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. The Department uniquely amalgamates the traditional practice of dance teaching, i.e. the guru-shishya parampara, with the contemporary practice of art education. It encouraged independent thought, bold experimentation and research-based activities. Two dance styles Bharatanatyam and Kathak are taught in the department. The base of Bharatanatyam remains the Kalakshetra school as the pioneers, Late Mohan Khokar and Smt. Anjali Merh, trained there. Even the Tanjore school had been absorbed too. In Kathak, the training remains Jaipur Gharana as the foundation was led by Late Pandit Sunderlal Gangani and has been carried on by his family. Along with performances of Kathak and Bharatanatyam, the department also encourages training in Nattuvangam and performances of folk and Modern creative dance.

The Stalwarts like Great Nattuvanar Guru Shri Kubernath Tanjorkar, Padmabhushan Prof. C. V. Chandrashekhar, Guru Pandit Sundarlal Gangani were the strong pillars of the Department. The late Mohan Khokar, the first head of the department, laid a solid foundation for research and theory. Smt. Anjali Merh continued her work and took the department to glorious heights. Other teachers who remain unforgettable for their work and the contribution in the department are Shri Kundanlal Gangani, Smt. M.K.Saroja, Nargis Katpitia, Umadevi Dutta, Prafulla Oza, Shri Pradeep Baruah, Smt. Jyotsana Mehta, Prof.Dr.Parul Shah, Shri Harish Gangani, Smt. Juthika Mahen, Shri R.Natarajan Pillai, Smt. Narayani Shah and Prof. Jagdish Gangani. Under the Headship of Dr. Smruti Vaghela, the present teaching staff, Dr. Ami Pandya, Dr. Preeti Damle, Mrs. Dhvani Shah, Dr. Divya Patel, Dr. Tripti Gupta and Ms. Hetal Arya are carrying forward the glorious legacy of the Department.

About the Seminar

Ancient and Modern Literature in Performing and Visual Arts and its Practice

The relationship between literature and the arts is one of humanity's oldest and most profound creative dialogues. Literature — whether in the form of ancient scriptures, epics, folk tales, or modern poetic expressions — has always served as a reservoir of ideas, imagery, and emotions that inspire the visual and performing arts. Through the centuries, artists have drawn from literary sources to translate words into movement, rhythm, sound, and image, thereby extending the life of texts beyond the page and into the performative realm. The meeting point of literature and the arts thus becomes a fertile ground where imagination takes form, philosophies find embodiment, and stories transcend linguistic boundaries.

In the context of Indian as well as world traditions, the practice of transforming literary narratives into performance and visual representation has played a vital role in cultural preservation and innovation. From the Natya Shastra's codification of natya rooted in mythological literature to the contemporary reinterpretations of modern novels and poems in dance, music, and theatre, literature continues to provide a living source for artistic experimentation. Literature has cradled visual art in its verses, immortalizing brushstrokes through the poetry of time. It not only mirrors the social and cultural consciousness of an era but also acts as a bridge between the classical and the modern, the textual and the visual, the oral and the embodied.

This seminar seeks to examine these dynamic intersections between ancient and modern literary traditions and their manifestations in the visual and performing arts. It aims to encourage discussions that analyse literary influences on artistic creativity, reinterpretations of texts in modern performance practices, and the pedagogical significance of literature in art education. Academician and research scholars are invited to explore how artists negotiate between fidelity to literary origins and the freedom of artistic expression, how textual narratives are visualized and performed, and how both literature and art continues to shape the cultural and intellectual fabric of contemporary society.

Sub Themes for Seminar

- Literary sources and their influence on classical dance traditions.
- The role of mythological narratives in performing arts.
- Literary adaptations in theatre, film, and performance.
- Poetry and movement: translating verses into choreography.
- Modern literature as inspiration for visual and performing arts.
- Cross-cultural literary exchanges reflected in artistic practices.
- Performing the epics: Ramayana, Mahabharata, and beyond.
- Interpretation of literary symbolism through music and dance.
- Pedagogical use of literature in art education.
- Relevance of literary study in contemporary art practice.
- Comparative analysis between ancient and modern artistic interpretations.
- Literature as a tool for aesthetic and cultural dialogue.
- Reviving forgotten texts through performance and visual representation.
- Oral traditions and their literary transformation into performing arts.
- Text to performance: process and practice.
- The impact of modern literary movements on visual aesthetics.
- Ancient text and treatise as a foundation of artistic practice.
- The role of literature costumes, set design and visual aesthetics.
- Natyashastra and its influence on Indian Visual and Performing Arts.
- Temple sculptures, Mural Art and Iconography: Visual Narratives of Ancient texts.
- Folk Literatures and its representation in Performing and Visual Arts.
- Post-Independence Indian Literature and its impact on arts.
- Contemporary Performing and Visual arts inspired by ancient literature.
- Use of artistic literature in new education system.
- Digital humanities and Artificial Intelligence in Literature and Art practices.
- Any other relevant theme to the core subject of the seminar.

Guidelines for Paper Submission:

1. Last Date of paper submission (MS Word & PDF format) with registration fees is 31st January 2026 on Email : seminar-dance@msubaroda.ac.in
2. Kindly mention full Name, Address, Contact number, along with Email and Payment Receipt.
3. Font size must be:
 - English: Times New Roman (size 12)
 - Hindi: Nirmala UI or Unicode (size 12)
 - Paper Size: A4
 - Reference Style – MLA
4. The maximum word limit of the paper should be 2500 words.
5. Research article should contain Abstract (Approx. 200 words) and Keywords (5-7)
6. Selected Research papers will be published in an E - book with ISBN number -
7. REGISTRATION FEES : (Online / Offline)
 - Teachers and Academicians – 2500/-
 - MSU Temporary Faculties - 1500/-
 - Research Scholars - 1500/-
 - Students – 1000/-
8. For Online Payment Details-

Bank Details:

Bank Name: Bank of Baroda

Branch: Laheripura

Account Name: Ancient and Modern Literature in Performing
and Visual Arts and its Practice

Account Number: 01920200003075

IFSC Code: BARB0LAHERI (Fifth Character is Zero)



[Click here for
Registration](#)

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Important Note: Last date to submit the Full Paper along with Abstract is 10/02/2026.