



SAARC CULTURAL CENTRE
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
www.saarcculture.org

CONCEPT NOTE

Call For Papers for SAARC Special Edition 2023

Background

The SAARC Cultural Centre (SCC), Colombo is one of the SAARC Regional Centres that aims to promote, peace and amity in South Asia through its various cultural activities as well as publications based on recent studies and original research on different aspects of cultures of the SAARC Region. Keeping this in view, this year 2023, SCC aims to bring out a special edition on the *Rites of Passage in the SAARC Region*.

Rites of Passage or Life-cycle memories are rituals and ceremonies that celebrate the transition from one stage to another. The life of an individual regardless of the type of society, consists in passing successfully from one age to another. There is a wide degree of general similarity among these ceremonies of pregnancy, birth, puberty, initiation, ordination, betrothal, parenthood and funerals all over the SAARC region. In some cases, the expression may be different but it exists in all societies. These rites have multiple purposes and not limited to an individual's life but has broader application.

Submission Themes:

Taking into account the significance of these rites of passage associated with each stage, for its upcoming special edition, the publication seeks high-quality articles focusing on the four main stages:

1. *Traditional Birthing Rituals: Including prenatal and birth ceremonies*
2. *Traditional Initiation Rituals: Journey to Adulthood*
3. *Traditional Wedding Rituals: Tying the Knot*
4. *Traditional Funeral Rituals: Final Rest or a New Beginning*

Objectives of the Publication:

- To provide a comprehensive survey of the ways people in SAARC Region, use ritual to negotiate lifecycle transitions.
- To highlight the comparative materials from a variety of cultures and a diversity of religious traditions in order to understand cultural and religious ways of negotiating major life cycle transitions.
- To produce a useful reference for scholars and students of SAARC region.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

PART 1 -ARTICLE GUIDELINES

- All the articles in English as per the SAARC Mandate.

- An abstract of 250-300 words along with the full paper including minimum 5 keywords.
- The paper must be of 8,000-10,000 words (excluding the abstract and the bibliography)
- Font type -Times New Roman
- Font Size - 12 points
- Line spacing - 1.5
- Page margins - Left: 1.5”
Right/ Top/ Bottom- 1”
- Article Title - Font Size 14 points and **Bold**
- Article Sub titles: Font size 12 points and **Bold**
- Organize the Tables, figures, and images at the end of the article.
- Citation/Reference Style: Chicago Style (17th Edition)
- Use English UK spellings
- Enclose Bibliography at the end of the article.
- **Illustrations - Tables, Figures and Plates:**
- Each table should be cited in the text (Table-1). The title and headings of the table should be included with each table and must be in **bold**. Figures include line drawings, graphs and maps.
- Each figure must be cited in text as Fig. 1 and include a caption in which the word “**Fig. 1:**” should be in bold.
- Plates include colour or black and white photographs. Plate numbers must be cited in the text like (Pl.1). Plates (Joint Photographic Group (jpg) image) should be listed in a separate file numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals with captions.
- Diacritical marks on any word of other languages should be avoided. Such words or phrases must be *italicized* which are not included in the English Oxford dictionary. As far as possible, footnotes and endnotes are to be avoided. Glossary of words may be provided for all non-English terms used in the text
- Acknowledgement and Funding statement, if any, is to be placed at the end of the paper just before the references.

PART II-AUTHOR PROFILE GUIDELINES

- Enclose a brief biographical entry of the authors in 100 words.
- Colour photograph of the author(s) (300 DPI maximum)
- Name(s), affiliation (if any), postal address, e-mail, phone numbers of the Author(s)
- Manuscript would be accepted for publication on the understanding that the submitted work is original, unpublished and new contributions, definitions and interpretations. For this purpose, please submit your declaration (in the format given below) in respect of your contribution.

“I.....declare that the article titledhas not been previously published or been submitted/ accepted for any other publication”.

Signature Date

It is the responsibility of the author to obtain clearance from the copyright holder for any previously published material, including figures, tables or photographs in the manuscripts.

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION: 31st of September 2023

Interested authors must email to dd-research@saarcculture.org confirming their submission of article/s by sending a Title and an abstract of 500 words.

Manuscripts and all correspondence should be addressed to:

Deputy Director-Research
SAARC Cultural Centre
224, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07
Sri Lanka
E-mail: sccpublications@gmail.com

The following criteria provide guidance for the research papers

Component	Description
Title	No more than 25 words; Clearly articulates the proposed paper.
Background/introduction/research problem (issue)	Provides background information or context to the study highlighting the importance of the topic while noting the gaps that need to be addressed; how it relates to current knowledge, practice or literature; and concludes with a statement of purpose (main aim) or the question to be addressed in the paper. Avoid using in-text citations in the Abstract.
Methodology	Provides a summary of how the activity was undertaken, the persons involved, the resources or equipment, the materials used for the interpretation/analysis etc. required, and how the processes or outcomes were documented and evaluated. Quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods are equally acceptable, so long as they are appropriate to the research question or issue.
Discussion (Results)	Provides a brief summary of findings or conclusions to be presented in the paper. In other words, what concepts emerged/what was found/what happened.
Findings & Conclusion/ Implications	Provides a statement or conclusion concerning the significance of the findings and the future perspective of your research with emphasis on the research's potential application or impact.
Overall quality of the paper	The paper should be well-organised and presented according to the submission guidelines. Originality and relevance of the study is given priority during the selection process.