



MANIPAL

ACADEMY of HIGHER EDUCATION

(Institution of Eminence Deemed to be University)

MANIPAL CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

**Centre for Intercultural Studies and Dialogue
(CISD)**

Online Course

(powered by Directorate of Online Education, MAHE)

**Discerning India:
Living Cultures of Tulu Nadu**



Discerning India- Living Cultures of Tulunadu is a unique Online Course that introduces the participants to the distinctive cultural traits of Tulunadu. The course is an attempt to capture the living experience of the communities of Tulunadu by examining the features of select practices.

Why Tulunadu

MAHE is located in a region that has its own cultural richness and unique cultural markers. The region stretching across the Arabian Coast from Byndoor in Karnataka to Kasargod in Kerala, known as *Tulunadu*, is a mosaic of cultures. The indigenous worship traditions, vibrant folk theatres and syncretic ways of living add a distinctive richness to the region. This course introduces the participants to the glimpses of this cultural heritage and leaves them with a desire to delve deeper.



The idea of the course

Communities' ways of life are often interspersed with their rootedness in the environment from which they emerge and recognition of these structures takes an explorer to the wonderful realities of the mysterious.

This course is primarily designed to introduce the unique cultural aspects of Tulunad and to provide a general overview about the knowledge systems of the communities.

Course Structure

The **Level 1** Course comprises the following Units:

Theatre and Performance: Yakshagana (Folk Theatre of the Region)

Community and Sports: Kambala (Slush Track Buffalo Race of the Region)

Worship Traditions: Bhutaradhane (Bhuta Worship of the Region)

Nagaradhane (Naga Worship of the Region)



Yakshagana (Folk Theatre of the Region)

Yakshagana is a vibrant and unique traditional art form that is performed in the coastal districts of Karnataka and Kasaragod district of Kerala.

Kambala (Slush Track Buffalo Race of the Region)

Kambala is a traditional slush track buffalo race that takes place in different parts of Tulunad from the month of November till March. Kambalas are integrally connected to agricultural activities of the region, and the worship of land and nature.

Bhutaradhane (Bhuta Worship of the Region)

As a culturally unique practice, Bhuta worship epitomises Tulunad. The worship practices followed by Tuluvas mirror life in various ways ranging from social, economic, and religious aspects.

Nagaradhane (Naga Worship of the Region)

Nagaradhane is a distinctive worship tradition of Tulunad. The beliefs associated with Naga or the Cobra in this region are symbolically represented in the ritual forms of Nagaradhane.

Activity Flow

Introductory Video Documentary

Series of Lectures

Readings

Assessment - Quiz

Supplementary Video

Revisit the Documentary

All the components are presented and delivered in English Language
Two Credits Course

Learning Outcomes

The broader idea of this course is to nurture critical thinking and facilitate dialogue on the issue of cultures. There are culture specific reasons and meanings for practices and activities that are an integral part of people's lives. The meaning and value that is placed by the communities on practices, though may seem of little consequence to outsiders, hold deeper significance to individuals within a community. The course opens a space for analysis and reflections on these values.

On completion of **Level 1** course, the participants will:

- gain insights into the distinctive cultural aspects of the region and understand its correlation to living
- examine how intersections of traditional and contemporary living experiences of the community combine to sustain the worship practices
- explore the spirit of the community participation in Slush track Buffalo Race
- be familiar with nuances of folk performative art form Yakshagana and its interrelation with the community experience

Who can take this course

This course is designed for all those who are interested in exploring new cultures and understanding diversity of living; people who are new to the region and wish to know about it; students who are visiting Manipal from other countries; students of India who wish to explore the diversity of the region; people of Tulu Nadu who wish to view the practices and beliefs of their own region through an academic lens.



Fee and Certification

Course Fee for Students:

National: ₹500

International: \$50

Course Fee for general public: ₹1000

Certificate will be issued by CISD and Directorate of Online Education, MAHE



Registration

Log on to the website: <https://manipal.edu/cisd>

Click on 'Discerning India' - Register Now



Team Centre for Intercultural Studies and Dialogue (CISD)

Centre for Intercultural Studies and Dialogue (CISD), MAHE is a platform for learning and research on communication across cultures. It aims to understand the intricacies and nuances of plurilingual and multicultural societies by focusing on the cultural interactions and intersections at various levels.



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