



Caliban Speaks: International Conference on Recentring Indigenous Thought in the Age of Decolonialism and Technology

21st-22nd April 2026

Hosted by
the Department of English, Faculty of
Languages & Literature
International Islamic University
Islamabad (IIUI)

Venue: Allama Iqbal Auditorium, Faisal
Campus, E-9, Islamabad.

Dates: 21-22 April, 2026. Format: Hybrid
(Onsite + Online)

Conference Aims

- Critically examines the limitations of postcolonial theory in academic and cultural discourse
- Centres Indigenous epistemologies in dialogue with Islamic and Western thought traditions
- Promotes pluriversal hermeneutics as a model of knowledge built on diversity and reciprocity
- Aims to deconstruct colonial residues in literature, pedagogy, curricula, and technology
- Encourages creative, scholarly, and activist expressions rooted in local and ancestral worldviews
- Advocates for transformative curriculum reforms that reflect plural and decolonised knowledge systems
- Brings together academics, artists, educators, and activists for cross-disciplinary dialogue and collaboration

Objectives

- Interrogate the limits of postcolonial theory and reposition decoloniality as praxis
- Promote dialogue across Indigenous, Islamic, and Western epistemologies
- Centre Indigenous language, memory, land, and creativity as knowledge systems
- Propose curricular reforms to challenge Eurocentric dominance
- Integrate research, art, and activism for holistic knowledge engagement
- Strengthen national and transnational decolonial research and teaching networks

Significance

- Advances curriculum reform and educational justice
- Supports locally rooted, decolonised knowledge
- Bridges tradition, technology, and pedagogy
- Contributes to policy, creativity, and teaching innovation

Key Conference Themes

- Uncanonising the Canon: Literary and curricular disruption
- Postcolonialism Beyond the Classroom: Rhetoric vs. reality
- Decolonial Curricula: Symbolism or transformation?
- Technology and Epistemic Violence: Tools of control or resistance?
- Indigenous Epistemologies: Land, language, and lineage
- Islamic-Decolonial Synergies: Knowledge rooted in revelation and resistance
- Digital Futures: AI, surveillance, and decolonial storytelling
- Caliban Reimagined: Literary resistance and creative revision
- Activist Pedagogies: Teaching for epistemic justice

Call for Papers / Abstract Submissions

- We invite academics, researchers, artists, and activists to submit:
- Abstracts (250 words) with a short bio (100 words)
- Deadline: 20th February '26
- Notification of Acceptance: 10th March '26
- Submission Email: calibanspeaks@iiu.edu.pk
- Presentations may include academic papers, creative performances, pedagogy showcases, or interdisciplinary collaborations.

Registration Details

Rs. 1000/- participant

Payment Mode: To be defined