

## PREFACE TO THE EDITION

It is with great pleasure that we present the latest issue of the **International Journal of Arts Science Humanities Research Studies (IJASHRS)**, a scholarly platform dedicated to fostering interdisciplinary dialogue across the arts, sciences, humanities, philosophy, technology, and cultural studies. The articles featured in this issue collectively demonstrate the growing importance of cross-disciplinary inquiry in understanding the complexities of contemporary society while remaining rooted in historical, cultural, and intellectual traditions.

This issue opens with a compelling exploration of Bharatanatyam in the digital era, examining how one of India's oldest classical dance traditions negotiates the challenges and opportunities of technological transformation. By addressing questions of pedagogy, authenticity, performance, and digital mediation, the study highlights the evolving relationship between tradition and innovation in contemporary performing arts discourse.

The historical depth of Indian civilization is further illuminated through an archaeological investigation of maritime trade in ancient Tamilakam during the Sangam Age. Through the integration of archaeological evidence, literary sources, and epigraphic records, the article provides valuable insights into Indo-Roman commerce and the broader interconnectedness of ancient global trade networks. This contribution significantly enriches ongoing discussions in historiography, archaeology, and cultural exchange studies.

The issue also foregrounds the significance of folk traditions and cultural sustainability through an insightful study on Madhubani art. By examining the transformation of Mithila painting from ritual practice to global cultural commodity, the article raises important questions concerning commercialization, authenticity, gendered artistic labour, and the preservation of indigenous knowledge systems in an increasingly globalized cultural economy.

In the field of literary and postcolonial studies, the issue includes a nuanced examination of contemporary Indian English poetry. The article engages with themes of identity, diaspora, linguistic experimentation, and digital literary culture, reflecting the plurality and dynamism of postcolonial literary expression in India. The discussion contributes meaningfully to contemporary debates on literary innovation, representation, and evolving poetic forms.

Bridging classical philosophy and modern scientific inquiry, another significant contribution investigates the dialogue between Advaita Vedanta and contemporary consciousness studies. By bringing Indian philosophical traditions into conversation with cognitive science and philosophy of mind, the study demonstrates the continued relevance of classical intellectual frameworks in addressing modern questions concerning consciousness, selfhood, and reality.

Extending the interdisciplinary scope of this issue into contemporary technological and ethical domains, the final article examines AI-driven healthcare diagnostics in rural India. The study critically analyses the opportunities and challenges associated with artificial intelligence in healthcare delivery, especially within underserved rural contexts. Its focus on ethics, equity, governance, and contextual implementation reflects the urgent need for responsible technological innovation in the service of public welfare.

Collectively, the articles in this issue embody the central vision of IJASHRS: to encourage rigorous, inclusive, and interdisciplinary scholarship that bridges the humanities, sciences, arts, and emerging technologies. The diversity of themes represented here—from classical dance, archaeology, folk art, and literature to philosophy, cognitive science, and artificial intelligence—demonstrates the journal's commitment to fostering intellectual engagement across disciplinary boundaries.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all contributing authors for their scholarly efforts, to the reviewers for their critical insights and academic commitment, and to the editorial and publication teams whose dedication has made this issue possible. We hope that this collection of research will inspire further inquiry, dialogue, and collaboration among scholars, educators, researchers, and practitioners across the globe.

Dr. Rahul Thampi R  
Chief editor

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