

Editor's Note

From the age of 'Shruti-Smriti' to the contemporary era of podcasts and audiobooks, human civilisation has been witnessing the cyclical rhythm of knowledge dissemination, this time infused with the sophistication of the hi-tech realm. The rhythm of knowledge dissemination, like the seasonal rhythm, repeats itself through replication, reinterpretation, and renewal. It is within this timeless continuum that the current issue of *Summerhill: IIAS Review* situates itself, exploring the deep interface between thought and experience, reminiscence and innovation, word and world. Aligning with the mandate of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, this volume represents the belief that knowledge is not just gathered but recreated constantly through dialogue and contemplation.

It is a special moment in the lifecycle of this journal, as the current issue of *Summerhill: IIAS Review* is brought out under the Chief Editorship of Prof. Himanshu Kumar Chaturvedi, who has recently assumed the charge of the Director IIAS, Shimla. Prof. Chaturvedi brings with him a new vision to take *Summerhill: IIAS Review* to new intellectual pinnacles with innovative rendezvous, which lends a spirit of fresh promise and purpose to this issue of the journal.

In an age where the social, the ecological, the economic, the local, the global and the artificial are intertwined, this edition offers a mosaic of intellectual explorations by scholars from diverse backgrounds, beginning with research articles that celebrate the rhythm of culture and language. In *Comparability, Cognition, and Cultural Recreation*, the authors Meenakshi F. Paul and Vishal Rangta familiarise us with the riddling wisdom of the Pahari riddles. Gitanjali Mahendra's *Sacred Landscape* and Deepika Pant's *A Flower Called Fyonli* bring forth the spiritual link between women, nature, and the sacred, mapping a literary terrain where storytelling becomes an act of conservation as much as creativity.

Other articles in this issue explore the expanding frontiers of technology and transformation. Kunjikannan's *Synergy of Physical and Artificial Intelligence* and Bhattacharya's *Śāstrīya Framework* on AI and classical art, respectively, probe the question—can the precision of machines ever capture the nuances of the human mind? The current issue of the journal also engages with the socioeconomic imagination, ranging from the colonial policies that had shaped the hill economy to the entrepreneurial drives of contemporary times. The research papers by Sunil Pratap Singh, Navendu Shekhar, Lalit Jain, and Akhilesh Pathak trace the depths of economic gains, entrepreneurial intentions, sustainability, business ethics, and handicraft traditions.

A few papers, like Sayani Roy's exploration of Buddhism in Bengali literature, Tinni Goswami's study of Vaishnavism, and Vimal Kumar Lahari's essay on the tradition of Sanatani women saints, speak about the transcendent and emotional dimensions of Being. Sooraj Kumar Maurya's *Labour, Love, and Obligation* and Harsha Rana's *The Absent Family* look at the costs of modernism. Similarly, the journal's focus on the eco-ethical paradoxes of the present day is remarkably illustrated in the articles on ecology, environment, and social action by Samidh Pal and Kanwalpreet Kaur.

The two book reviews, viz. S. Jaishankar's *Why Bharat Matters* and Dambarudhar Nath's *Nirguṇa Bhakti in Eastern India* provide appropriate reflections for this issue. The former places India's voice in a world of shifting powers, while the latter takes us back to the inner soul of devotion and identity, between which lies the spectrum of human aspiration, the outer journey of nations and the inward pilgrimage of the soul.

This focused essence upholds the purpose of *Summerhill: IIAS Review*, to be a meeting ground where intellect meets insight, and where analysis, however demanding, never loses its vital spark.

I hope this issue inspires reflection, dialogue, and the courage to redefine knowledge not as possession but as participation, a shared quest to understand a unified truth that transcends the boundaries of discipline and limits of time.

— Editor, *Summerhill: IAS Review*