

## **LATIHAR'25: CONCEPT NOTE**

The evolution of literature has always been intertwined with the technological advancements of its time. From the serialized novels of the Victorian era to the immersive experiences of contemporary digital storytelling, each period reflects a unique interplay between literature and the tools available for its creation, dissemination, and interpretation. The increasing digitization of texts—through e-books, audiobooks, online archives, and interactive platforms—has not only enhanced accessibility but also transformed the way readers engage with literature. Emerging media technologies such as hypertexts, augmented reality (AR), and virtual storytelling are redefining narrative structures, fostering active reader participation, and reshaping the relationship between author, text, and audience. The adaptation of literary works into film, television, and multimedia formats further demonstrates how digital tools extend the meaning and impact of literature. Once limited by technological constraints, adaptations now benefit from CGI, virtual production, and streaming platforms, enabling richer visual representations and global reach. The continuous reinterpretation of canonical texts (*Hamlet*, *Frankenstein*) illustrates literature's dynamic evolution in response to contemporary concerns and technological affordances.

A case in point is Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*. Does its 2005 adaptation offer greater appeal than earlier versions? Should it be critically examined as an independent text, or does it serve merely as an extension of the original work? How does it compare to animated adaptations? Each version of the story reflects the social, cultural, and technological essence of the era in which it was produced. Similarly, the novel itself can be understood as a product of the technological and scientific innovations of its time, foreshadowing the Industrial Revolution.

This conference seeks to explore the evolving intersection of literature and technology. Has the reduction in printing press costs historically revolutionized access to books? Or has the emergence of e-books and digital literature been the most transformative shift? It is important to recognize that technological influences on literature differ across centuries and will continue to evolve in ways we have yet to fully anticipate. Through this discussion, we aim to engage with scholars, researchers, academicians, students and literary enthusiasts in examining how technology continues to shape the future of storytelling.

### **THEMES AND SUBTHEMES**

Manuscripts may include but not be limited to

- Digital Literary Forms
- Technology's Impact on Literary Production and Consumption
- Literary Theory in the Digital Age
- Reimagining Classics through Digital Adaptations
- Teaching and Learning Literature through Technology
- Digital Literature and Globalization
- The Ethics and Politics of Digital Literature