



National Seminar *on* Sardar Patel and India's Unity: Geographical and Environmental Insights for Today's Challenges

31st October, 2025

Organized by:

**Department of Geography,
Rao Pahlad Singh Degree College,**

A NAAC Accredited College, Approved by DGHE/Govt. of Haryana & Affiliated to I.G.U. Meerpur, Rewari

Balana, Mahendergarh, Haryana

In Collaboration with

**Department of Geography,
Rajasthan University, Jaipur, Rajasthan**

Our Knowledge Partners



Introduction:

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the "Iron Man of India," played a crucial role in the unification of India after its independence. His strategic political leadership helped integrate over 500 princely states into a unified nation, laying the foundation for modern India's territorial integrity. His work was not just about political consolidation but also about geographical and ecological unity, wherein the varied regions of India, with their diverse physical landscapes, cultural identities, and economic systems, came together to form a cohesive nation-state.

As India navigates the complexities of the 21st century—marked by rapid urbanization, climate change, and regional disparities—the geographical and environmental dimensions of national integration are more significant than ever. Today, the challenges of environmental sustainability, uneven resource distribution, and the impacts of climate change are reshaping the very fabric of national cohesion. In light of these pressing concerns, revisiting Sardar Patel's vision from both a geographical and environmental perspective becomes imperative.

This seminar aims to explore the continuing relevance of Patel's strategies for spatial and environmental integration in modern India. It seeks to understand how geography, spatial planning, and environmental governance can promote national unity in the face of contemporary challenges. The seminar will engage scholars across disciplines to reflect on the role of territorial consolidation, resource management, and ecological resilience in fostering a unified, sustainable India.

Objectives:

1. To analyze the geographical and environmental strategies that Sardar Patel employed to integrate India's diverse regions and ecosystems.
2. To examine how modern challenges, such as climate change, regional disparities, and environmental sustainability, affect national integration in contemporary India.
3. To discuss how spatial planning, infrastructure, and environmental governance can promote equitable regional development and national cohesion.
4. To explore how cultural, political, and ecological diversity can coexist within a unified national framework.
5. To encourage interdisciplinary dialogue on using geographical and environmental thinking to strengthen national identity and integration in today's world.

Call for Abstracts

Participants are invited to submit abstracts of no more than 300 words, accompanied by 4–6 relevant keywords. The abstract should be prepared in MS Word format (.doc/.docx), using Times New Roman, 12-point font, and 1.5 line spacing. The title should be in bold, 14-point font, and centered, followed by the full names of the author(s), their designation, institutional affiliation, and the corresponding author's email address.

All submissions must be E-mailed to ns.unity2025@gmail.com no later than 10th October 2025. Abstracts will be reviewed by a peer committee, and selected authors will be notified by 15th October 2025. Submissions should be written in English and must align with one of the seminar's listed themes or sub-themes. Selected participants will be invited to present their work through either oral or poster presentations during the seminar.

Sub-Themes for Abstracts:

1. Sardar Patel and the Geographical Unification of India

- Patel's role in uniting political, ecological, and geographical landscapes.
- Lessons from Patel's integration strategies for modern environmental and spatial challenges.
- Mapping newly integrated states and ecological shifts post-independence.

2. Geography, Environment, and National Unity

- Impact of India's geographical diversity on its national identity.
- Ecological systems as drivers of unity or conflict.
- Border ecology: Climate change, resource conflicts, and sustainability.

3. Sustainable Regional Development and National Integration

- Reducing regional disparities through sustainable planning.
- Infrastructure and ecological balance: Transport, water, and energy networks.
- Case studies on eco-conscious regional integration initiatives.

4. Environmental Challenges to National Integration

- Managing environmental conflicts and border disputes.
- Climate change impacts on cooperation and unity.
- Urbanization and migration: Socio-environmental impacts on integration.

5. Sardar Patel's Legacy in Environmental Governance and Spatial Planning

- Applying Patel's vision to federal environmental governance.
- Regional planning for balanced growth and ecological resilience.
- Educational and cultural programs to promote eco-conscious unity.

6. Ecological Unity and Cultural Landscape

- Linking India's cultural diversity with ecological richness.
- Biodiversity corridors, conservation, and sustainable agriculture.
- Preserving cultural heritage through ecological stewardship.

Poster Session and Project Exhibition

As part of the seminar, a dedicated Poster Session and Project Exhibition will be organized to provide a platform for participants to showcase their innovative research ideas, field-based studies, and creative academic projects. These interactive displays aim to encourage knowledge sharing, foster collaboration, and highlight practical applications of research. Students, scholars, and faculty members are invited to present their work in a visually engaging format, making the event more dynamic and enriching for all attendees.

Expected Outcomes:

The seminar will provide a platform for a multidimensional discussion on the intersection of geography, environment, and national integration. By revisiting Sardar Patel's contributions and considering the environmental dimensions of national unity, it will encourage scholars to explore practical solutions to contemporary challenges such as regional imbalances, climate change, and ecological sustainability. The outcomes will guide policymakers, scholars, and activists in developing holistic, sustainable strategies for fostering national integration, both politically and ecologically, in modern India.

Target Audience:

- Scholars from Geography, Political Science, Environmental Science, Urban Planning, Sociology, History and related fields.
- Students and academics interested in national development, environmental sustainability, and spatial governance.
- Policymakers and practitioners involved in regional development, environmental governance, and infrastructure planning.

About RPS Degree College

R.P.S. Degree College, established in 2012 under the RPS Education Society, is a renowned institution in Haryana, known for its academic excellence, sports achievements, and vibrant extracurricular activities. Located amidst the scenic Aravalli Hills, the college offers a variety of programs, including **B.A., B.Sc., M.Sc., and M. Com** across multiple disciplines. With a highly qualified faculty and modern facilities, RPS Degree College emphasizes holistic student development, preparing graduates to excel both in India and internationally.



The **Department of Geography** at RPS Degree College, established in 2012 and upgraded to a postgraduate department in 2013, is recognized for its excellence in geographical education and research. The department boasts **Cartography** and **GIS labs**, equipped with advanced software like **QGIS** and **ILWIS**. The faculty, renowned for their expertise, regularly conducts **field trips, workshops, and expert lectures**. Offering **ISRO's IIRS outreach courses** and **NET exam preparation**, the department ensures comprehensive academic and technical training for students' success.

About the University of Rajasthan

The University of Rajasthan (UniRaj), established in 1947, is one of India's oldest and most prestigious public universities, located in the heart of Jaipur, Rajasthan. Offering a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs, UniRaj is known for its academic excellence across disciplines such as Arts, Science, Commerce, Law, Engineering, and Social Sciences. The university emphasizes research and innovation through numerous research centers that contribute significantly to national and international knowledge. Equipped with modern classrooms, libraries, and research labs, UniRaj provides a conducive environment for both academic and extracurricular growth.

The Department of Geography at UniRaj is a leading academic center in geographical education and research. The department offers programs at the undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral levels in areas such as Physical Geography, Human Geography, Urban and Regional Planning, and Geospatial Technology. It is equipped with cutting-edge GIS and Remote Sensing labs and encourages fieldwork, interdisciplinary collaboration, and academic exchanges through regular seminars and workshops.

Registration Process

- **Registration Fee**
 - Students/Research Scholars: ₹ 300 /
 - Faculty Members/Others: ₹ 500 /
- **Registration Link** <https://forms.gle/ZA89DJf2q5mf7Wqv8>
- **Deadline for Registration:** 25 October 2025

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DEGREE COLLEGE
BRANCH NAME - **HDFC BANK,**
ANAJ MANDI,
MAHENDERGARH

After registration, selected candidates will be informed via email. Due to limited availability, please ensure that you complete the registration process at the earliest.

Awards and Recognition

To encourage academic excellence and innovative research, the seminar will honor outstanding contributions with the following awards:

- **O.P. Yadav Memorial Award for Best Paper**
- **Best Presentation Award**
- **Best Poster Award**
- **Best Project Award**

These awards aim to recognize exceptional scholarship, creativity, and impactful contributions presented during the seminar.

Organizing Committee

Patrons



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