Call for Papers for the inaugural issue of
Journal of Indian Knowledge Systems
(expected in February/March 2025)

Journal of Indian Knowledge Systems (JIKS) provides a forum to scholars who wish to study India, its civilizational journey, its people, its experiences drawing from Indian texts, contexts and various living traditions as well as their contemporary & futuristic relevance. The aim of this journal is to break free from exclusive academic dependency on existing paradigms (while not excluding meaningful conversation) and explore alternative ways of knowing. It will cover an interrogative track challenging the universalizing claims of colonial/Western scholarship (including Orientalist/ auto-Orientalist tendencies) and its project of producing India as an object of knowledge. But more importantly it will have a constructive track of finding alternative theories, conceptual frameworks that emerged in India, and their implications to organize human experience. This will, in addition to all other academic themes that take their content and/or inspiration from the civilizational wisdom, knowledge and experience of India, involve sustained engagement with all *Vidyā*s and *Kalā*s and will include Indian philosophical and cognitive sciences, psychological, social & cultural sciences, political & economic sciences, performing arts & aesthetics, science & technology, law, public policy and governance among others.

The journal invites cutting-edge and original research articles on the theory and practice of various knowledge traditions of India as a cultural, civilizational region while acknowledging the evolution, mediation and contemporaneity of those traditions, as well as on the insights emerging from or inspired by these knowledge traditions. Covering both *laukika* and *alaukika* dimensions of Indian experience, the journal welcomes submissions which deploy an interdisciplinary and comparative approach and demonstrate familiarity with contemporary academic vocabulary. The journal welcomes original articles that align with relevant themes, in-depth analyses in the form of review papers, special issues on specific themes, book reviews and synoptic essays.

The inaugural issue is directed at creating a landscape that locates Indian Knowledge Systems both as an ensemble of multiple disciplines and as an attitude towards Indianizing knowledge about India. In the process, it not only seeks to use Indian idioms and Indian knowledge traditions to understand India, but

also promotes India as the locus of knowledge. Interested scholars are advised to engage with broad domains (listed below) that marks difference from Western theory and offers a template that can act as theoretical frameworks for further analysis of lived experiences, texts and socio-cultural issues and practical paradigms to address challenges and offer insights to the contemporary world. While being clear about problem definition, archive/literature review, methodology and analysis, the points that may be used to frame the papers are: how does it relate (contest/converse) to conventional/ global paradigms and how does it offer a distinctly Indian alternative? What are the explanatory or analytical potential of the approach and how does it change the way we understand a problem? How does it transform our ways of being, becoming, believing and belonging?

The inaugural issue is envisaged as programmatic and expects the submissions to lay the foundations of an academic field for future engagement. The broad domains include the following:

Indian art and aesthetics, including performing arts

Indian psychology

Itihāsa, purāṇa

Nyāya, Vaisheshika, pramāṇa, tarka and *vāda*

*Vidyā*s and *Kalā*s

Indian sociology and cultural studies

Swadeshi Indology

Urban studies and architecture

Colonial discourse analysis, Decolonial studies and theory

Indian statecraft, law, policy, public administration

Educational & pedagogical traditions of India

Indian philosophy and life

Indian health & wellness sciences

Indian mathematics, sciences, engineering & technology

Other relevant areas to further the objectives of the journal

Submission guidelines and review process:

Authors are encouraged to use Chicago style sheet and submit papers not exceeding 8000 words. The deadline to submit the papers is 30th December, 2024. All submissions will be reviewed by two referees and the identities of both the reviewers and the authors will be kept confidential. The review process takes may take between 7-8 weeks. The papers may be emailed to journal@theiksha.org.

Initial discussion has started with some international commercial publishers operating out of India.