

**Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU)**  
**Department of Sociology**

**Concept Note of Two Days Symposium cum Seminar on,  
"Sociology of Knowledge: A Perspective from Ibn Khaldun"  
on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

Sociology is the study of society and human social action. It concerns most with the social rules and processes that bind/separate people individually and as the members of associations, groups, institutions, etc., examining the organization and development of human social life. Sociology of knowledge that refers to be the relationship between the human thought and the social context within which it arises, encompasses these items. It is only since 1920s that the term sociology of knowledge is widespread with its focus, extensively, on sociological aspects of knowledge, following the writings by the social scientists such as Auguste Comte, Emile Durkheim, Karl Marx, Ferdinand Tonnies, Vilfredo Pareto, etc. However, as a matter of fact, the patterned social relationships in the society were evolved through successive stages of human development and thus the social rules and processes existed in the society quite long. Correspondingly, there were certain social theorists who participated in the realm of the study of society even before the emergence of the ilk of social thinkers of 20<sup>th</sup> century as referred above. They used the abstract and often complex theoretical frameworks explaining and analysing social patterns and macro social structures existing in social life.

Given this, it is quite disheartening that such key social thinkers are hardly given space that is due to them, in sociological thought, despite of the merits they command. For example, Ibn Khaldun a great Muslim thinker of the fourteenth Century, who is considered to be a pioneer or a precursor in the science of society and rather termed to be the first sociologist as well as the founder of modern sociology, is highly ignored in the sociological literature.

Ibn Khaldun, who argued that the analysis of human beings need to be grounded scientifically in order to transcend the particular histories of any groups, was a monumental social scientist and a sociologist of all times. Because he defined the foundations of sociology more than four centuries before Auguste Comte 'discovered' them. Ibn Khaldun's book '*Muqadimmah*', an exposition of the patterns of human relationships in connection with environment is an exemplary work offering understanding on the causes of changes, in the history of sociology of knowledge. In addition, about five centuries before Darwin discovered the specific features of evolution, Ibn Khaldun wrote that humans developed from 'the world of the monkeys' through a widening process in which 'species become more numerous'. Further, four hundred years before Auguste Comte's 'invention' of sociology, Ibn Khaldun unveiled his 'science of culture'. Given this, the social sciences in general and sociology in particular, cannot afford to ignore the contributions of Ibn Khaldun.

In view of the above, the responsibility lies before the sociologists is to explore and reconstruct the perspective of Ibn Khaldun, in order to understand him and to try to look at the social phenomena through such understanding. Hence a symposium cum seminar entitled, “**The Sociology of Knowledge: A Perspective from Ibn Khaldun**” is being organized by the department of Sociology, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, India, on March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The aim of this event is to flash an outlook into the contributions made by Ibn Khaldun to reconstruct the perspective and the categories of thought through which Ibn Khaldun viewed the social world. Further, as the title indicates, it is a symposium on ‘sociology of knowledge’, Ibn Khaldun is pointed as the case in point to highlight how his theory/ries produced in his culture, can fit into the general scheme of the sociology of knowledge as followed by few modern sociologists in recent times.

**Sub-themes of the symposium/seminar:** The following are the sub-themes of the Symposium/Seminar. However, this is not an exhaustive list and hence a topic around the theme/sub theme may be presented based on the acceptance of the abstract on the same.

1. Ibn Khaldun’s idea of sociology and the idea of his social thought
2. Ibn Khaldun’s idea on Education
3. Ibn Khaldun on political Change
4. Ibn Khaldun’s ideas on Historical and economic development
5. Ibn Khaldun’s relevance to present

**Mode of Presentations:** An invited panel of speakers will make their presentations either in English or in Urdu, covering the theme/sub themes. Besides, papers by the young researchers and academicians also will be invited for presentation. Hence those interested may send abstracts to reach the convener ([manuusocio@gmail.com](mailto:manuusocio@gmail.com)) on or before 10/03/2019. Abstracts will be scrutinized and only those selected will be included for presentation in the seminar.

**Date Venue and other modalities:** The Symposium cum Seminar will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 in MANUU Campus, Hyderabad. Transport, accommodation and hospitality will be provided to only a few participants, as decided, due to limited budget availability.

**Symposium/Seminar Convener:**

Prof. P. H. Mohammad, Head, Department of Sociology, MANUU, Gachibowli,  
Hyderabad – 500032; email: [manuusocio@gmail.com](mailto:manuusocio@gmail.com); Mob; 9866399577

**Symposium Organising Committee:**

Dr. Saheed, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, MANUU, Hyderabad.

Dr. Md. Ehtesham Akhter, Guest Faculty, Department of Sociology

Dr. K. M. Ziyauddin, Assistant Professor, ACSSEIP & Associate Faculty, Department of Sociology, MANUU

Mr. Khaja Nazimuddin, Guest Faculty - DDE & Associate Faculty, Department of Sociology, MANUU.

تیسویں بارے میں:

ابن خلدون (1332-1406) ماہرین سماجی علوم تھے۔ ابن خلدون نے سماج، سماجی حقیقت، تہذیب، ثقافت، گروہ (اسیاد)، انسانی زندگی، علم اور عمل کا مطالعہ سماجی طریقے سے کیا۔ لیکن سماجیات کے دائرہ اقدار میں خلدون کو مکمل طور پر قبول نہیں کیا گیا۔ موجودہ دور کے سماجیات میں ابن خلدون کو ایک نئے نظریے سے دیکھنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ ابن خلدون نے سب سے پہلے سماج کو ایک ادارتی اور قدرتی طور پر منظم اور باقاعدہ نظام بتایا۔ ابن خلدون نے انفرادی زندگی، علم اور حقیقت کو جاننے کے طریقے کا، ثقافتی تبدیلی، تہذیب اور علم کے مختلف ایام کا ایک سماجی تصور بہت پہلے پیش کیا تھا۔ یہ سماجی نہیں ہوگا کہ سماجیات صرف مغربی اٹانگمنٹ اور ریشٹا لینی میں ہی پیدا ہوئی ہے۔ ابن خلدون نے اپنے وقت کے سماجی حالات کا مطالعہ کرتے ہوئے ایک خاص ترتیب سے ریشٹا لینی، سماجی اور امپریکل تحقیق کے ذریعہ سماج کا مطالعہ کیا۔ یہ سب سے زیادہ کم سماجیات کے اتنی موضوع سے متعلق ابن خلدون کے سماجی علم اور علوم پر قانون و وضع کرنے کے مقصد سے کیا جا رہا ہے۔

**Chief Patron**  
**Dr. Mohammad Aslam Parvaiz**  
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**Patron**  
**Dr. M. A. Sikandar**  
Registrar, MANUU

**Convener**  
**Prof. P. H. Mohammad**  
Head  
Department of Sociology, MANUU  
&  
Dean, School of Arts and Social Sciences,  
MANUU

#### **Organizing Committee**

**Dr. Saheed**  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Sociology

**Dr. Md. Ehtesam AKhtar**  
Guest Faculty,  
Department of Sociology

**Dr. K. M. Ziyuddin**  
Assistant Professor, ACSSEIP & Associate  
Faculty, Department of Sociology,  
MANUU

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Department of Sociology, MANUU.



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**A Perspective from Ibn Khaldun**  
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**Department of Sociology**  
School of Arts & Social Sciences  
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Gachibowli, Hyderabad-50032  
Telangana, India  
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### About the University

Maulana Azad National Urdu University was established by an act of Parliament in 1998 as a Central University with a twin mandate to promote education through Urdu Medium and to contribute to the women education. The headquarter is located at Hyderabad in a very beautiful campus sprawled over 200 acres. It has Seven Schools of Studies with twenty four (24) departments and several other centers of research and training as well as a Directorate of Distance Education. It also has three ITIs, colleges of Polytechnic and colleges of Education at different locations across the country.

### The Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology was established in the year 2014. It made a steady progress introducing teaching programmes at Under - Graduate level, initially, in the academic year 2014-15, then the Post-Graduate (M.A) programme in Sociology in the successive academic year in 2015-16 and proceeding further with introduction of the research programme Ph.D., subsequently. The Department has a deeper commitment of imparting sociological perspective addressing diverse aspects of contemporary society as well as looking back to historical patterns also. Thus it entails understanding specific features within different kinds of societies and exploring the social arrangements that the groups and societies make. Our faculty has varied experience of teaching and research and has deep engagement with central sociological issues covering modernity, work, technology, consumerism, family, health, death, education, popular culture, social justice and social policy, religion, poverty and development, law, crime, ethnicity, gender and sexuality, etc., and would be involved in providing teaching and research in these diversified areas.

### About the Conference

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