

**Cultural Policy**  
**Gangadhar Meher University**  
**Amruta Vihar, Sambalpur**

**Introduction:**

Located in the heart of Sambalpur, and symbolically the centre of Sambalpuri cultural ethos, Gangadhar Meher University has been instrumental in promoting the cultural diversity of region. Ever since its inception, the institution has been actively involved in the representation of the rich cultural traditions of Sambalpur and the western belt of Odisha in general. The institute has a vibrant team of both faculty and students who have been involved in the promotion of various traditions performing arts like folk and classical music, folk and classical dance forms and folk theatre. Along with exponential progress academically, the university has attained unprecedented heights in co-curricular activities of students.

**Scope:**

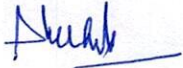
The institution's accessibility to folk/tribal as well as classical cultural and literary legacies enables it to envision possibilities of cultural collaboration with other regional bodies working towards the promotion of the rich traditions of Western Odisha. There are numerous musical, dance and theatrical traditions reflecting the ethos of the region that still cry out for attention. Under the aegis of the Literary and Cultural Committee of the university, such traditions and art forms can both be identified and preserved for posterity. The committee can play a pivotal role in the preservation of fine arts and performing arts from the region, thereby rescuing them from

extinction. It can restore the lost respectability of tribal cultural practices and conceive collaborative ventures with the aid of practitioners from various fields of performing and fine arts. Cultural activities enhance the confidence levels of students, and enable them to overcome negativity, depression and anxiety. They provide a positive direction to the unspent energy of youth to involve in creative work and contribute to nation-building. They provide an excellent forum for engaging the mind and body in acts with positive results. Therefore, Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur, has the policy of:

- Promoting music, dance, theatrical and literary traditions of the region, state and nation.
- Revivification of the cultural activities of the university through streamlining student participation in state/national/international events.
- Spreading cultural awareness among the student community and the youth of Sambalpur at large.
- Inauguration of Music, Dance, Instrumental Music, Theatre, and Cinema clubs with designated space and equipment for rehearsals, composition, recording and other creative endeavours by students.
- Offering professional training to students in folk and classical music, theatre and dance forms.
- Organizing events on a regular basis for assessing the talent of the students.
- Arranging special workshops/lectures/short-term training programmes for refining the literary and cultural skills of students.
- Facilitation of student participation in state/national/international events
- Encouraging the healthy trend of welcoming freshers and bidding farewell to outgoing students in the various teaching departments as well as hostels.

- Capacity building of students and faculty in event management, problem-solving and teamsmanship.
- Conducting the Annual Literary and Cultural Festival of the university.
- Train students to become able leaders through volunteering and other leadership roles.
- To lead to the maintenance of a healthy body and healthy mind through creative engagement.

  
**Director, IQAC**  
**Gangadhar Meher University**  
**Sambalpur**

  
**REGISTRAR**  
**GANGADHAR MEHER UNIVERSITY**  
**SAMBALPUR**