







# DAY 01

18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2026

**Focus : Writings from the Middle East and North Africa**

TIME	VENUE	SESSION
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	RANGGAR AUDITORIUM	<p><b>THE MIDDLE EAST &amp; NORTH AFRICA WITHIN AND WITHOUT AN INSIGHT INTO THE REGION</b></p> <p>Talmiz Ahmad (Chair), Sherif Bakr Kingshuk Chatterjee, Abdelaziz Errachidi and Leila Al Mutawa</p>
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	INDIRA MIRI HALL	<p><b>LIFE, JOURNALISM &amp; LITERATURE</b></p> <p>A presentation by Lucía Asué Mbomio Rubio on her journey as a novelist and journalist</p>
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	CMS 1	<p><b>HAVE YOUR MANGO AND EAT IT TOO</b></p> <p>Pratik Chowdhury in a fruity-tale conversation with Sopan Joshi on the biography of the king of fruits</p>
10:00 AM – 11:15 AM	CMS 2	<p><b>KOREAN LITERATURE AND SOCIETY</b></p> <p>Bibhash Choudhury dives deep into Korean culture with Kyung-Sook Shin, Jeong You-Jeong and Sung-il Kim</p>
09:45 AM – 11:15 AM	LIBRARY LAWN	<p><b>SKETCH IT OUT LOUD</b></p> <p>Meena Sharma draws in Deborshee Gogoi Pankaj Saikia and Dennis Laishram in messaging through illustrations</p>
<div>  <b>TEA BREAK</b>  </div>		

TIME	VENUE	SESSION
11:45 AM – 01:00 PM	RANGGHAR AUDITORIUM	<p><b>QUEERING THE PITCH</b>  <b>INDIA'S DEFENCE IN FORWARD MODE</b>            K Sree Nair engages with AVM Arjun Subramaniam, Ghazala Wahab and Major General Bipin Bakshi on India's internal security</p>
11:45 AM – 01:00 PM	CMS 1	<p><b>THE 'FAIRER' SIDE OF LITERARY CRITICISM</b>            Surajit Sharma engages with M S Ashadevi Susana Sanches Arins (Interpreter María Reimóndez) and Lana Abdel Rahman</p>
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	CMS 2	<p><b>IN-DEPTH</b>            Arabinda Rajkhowa in conversation with Jahnu Barua on his life and journey</p>
11:45 AM – 01:00 PM	INDIRA MIRI HALL	<p><b>INDO-NEPAL TIES</b>  <b>SHARED BONDS AND MUTUAL PERCEPTIONS</b>            Jayanto Narayan Choudhury dwells on the complexities of India's relations with Nepal with Ranjit Rae and Rohini Rana</p>
11:45 AM – 01:15 PM	LIBRARY LAWN	<p><b>VERSES SANS FRONTIERS</b>  <b>POETRY FROM AROUND THE WORLD</b>            Tashi Chopel (moderator), Reem Kais Kubba, Yuliya Musakovska, Abhijeet Gogoi Babitha Justin, Uxue Alberdi, Mamang Dai María Reimóndez and Minu Bakshi</p>
<div>  <b>LUNCH BREAK</b>  </div>		

TIME	VENUE	SESSION
02:00 PM – 03:00 PM	CMS 1	<b>IN-DEPTH</b> Justice (Retd) Subhasis Talapatra in parley with Aruna Chakravarti on her literary oeuvres
02:00 PM – 03:00 PM	CMS 2	<b>REVIVING QAWWALI PEOPLE, PERFORMERS &amp; PERFORMANCES</b> Shantanu Ray Chaudhuri in tune with Manjari Chaturvedi
02:00 PM – 03:15 PM	INDIRA MIRI HALL	<b>INDIA'S AF-PAK IMBROGLIO</b> Obja Borah Hazarika reflects on India's ties with our Western neighbours with Kallol Bhattacharjee and Major General Bipin Bakshi
02:00 PM – 03:00 PM	SRI SRI ANIRUDDHADEVA BHAVAN	<b>RESHAPING MYTHOLOGY A GENDER PERSPECTIVE</b> Trisha Niyogi in conversation with Koral Dasgupta and Paramita Satpathy
02:00 PM – 03:00 PM	LIBRARY LAWN	<b>BAZM-E-URDU</b> Mujtaba Khan in conversation with Minu Bakshi on her poetry and writings
<div>  <b>TEA BREAK</b>  </div>		

TIME	VENUE	SESSION
04:15 PM – 06:15 PM	RANGGHAR AUDITORIUM	FORMAL OPENING OF THE FESTIVAL
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HIGHLIGHTS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHIEF GUEST:</b> Yeshe Dorjee Thongchi, Writer</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WELCOME ADDRESS:</b> Prof. Jiten Hazarika, Vice Chancellor, Dibrugarh University</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS:</b> Talmiz Ahmad (IFS Retd), India's former Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, UAE &amp; Oman</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPECIAL ADDRESS:</b> Jayanto Narayan Choudhury (Patron, FOCAL)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>5:30PM:</b> Cultural Programme: University Cultural Troupe, others</p>		