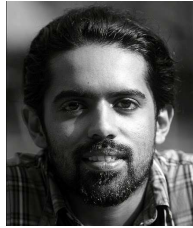


## COORDINATORS



**Theo Meder**  
ISCLR



**Mathew A Varghese**  
Center for  
Urban  
Studies



**Anoop Vellani**  
Sree Sankara  
Vidyapeetom  
College

### ABOUT THE WEBINAR

Sree Sankara Vidyapeetom College and Center for Urban Studies Mahatma Gandhi University, in collaboration with ISCLR, set the digital stage for an event that analyses narratives and lore, in this case contemporary ones. As customary in folk narration, the tales show both variability and stability in form and content, while the spread of contemporary legends and lore may follow specific conduits. The webinar also dwells on the transmission of both universal and local motifs, in the context of time and place. The presentations and discussions will focus on the different media of transmission, whether it be oral tradition, protest demonstrations, print, email threads, discussion forums, social media, radio, television or movies.

## ORGANISERS

### International Society for Contemporary Legend Research

The International Society for Contemporary Legend Research (ISCLR) encourages study of so-called “modern” and “urban” legends, and also of any legend that circulates actively. Members are especially concerned with ways in which legends merge with life: real-life analogues to legend plots, social crusades that use legends or legend-like horror stories, and search for evidence behind claims of alien abductions and mystery cats. During the Corona crisis many scholars focused their analysis on conspiracy theories and rumors, panics and protests concerning COVID-19.

### Sree Sankara Vidyapeetom College, Valayanchirangara

Sree Sankara Vidyapeetom College, Valayanchirangara is a prestigious institution of academic excellence under the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala, India. This institution is devoted to the promotion of education especially to the rural habitants since it's situated in the remotest area away from the city. An organization with an all enthusing faculties who have an urge for academic enhancement in varied disciplinary areas. The institution has been organising National and International Seminars and Webinars which definitely aims for the betterment of the holistic educational outcome of the institution.

### Center for Urban Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala, India

The Center for Urban Studies (as well as an Urban Lab) is conceived of, as a Center allied with the School of International Relations and Politics (SIRP), at the Mahatma Gandhi University, in the context of the increasing contemporary importance of working with and through urban formations, city plans/imaginings, hybrid relationships and urban typologies in the everyday life. The everyday, narratives and lores in the making, as well as socio-spatial imaginings are some of our priority areas.

# Contemporary Legends and Pandemic Lore

Second ISCLR Webinar in association with Sree Sankara Vidyapeetom College and Center for Urban Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University

9-11 NOVEMBER 2021



### Time Schedule

8:00 – 11:00 pm IST (Indian Standard Time)  
3:30 – 6:30 pm CET (Central European Time)  
8:30 am – 11:30 am CST (Central Standard Time)  
9:30 am – 12:30 pm EST (Eastern Standard Time)

### Platform



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## NOVEMBER 9

MODERATOR

MATHEW A VARGHESE/ ABHINANTH  
KISHORE

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RAJAN GURUKAL

*(Vice chairman, KSHEC, India)*

**Fantacising the Pandemic: Between a New  
World and Apocalypse**

STANELY J. STEPANIC

*(College of Arts and Sciences*

*Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures)*

**Origins of the Vampire**

GREG KELLEY

*(Media Studies, University of Guelph-Humber,  
Canada)*

**Contagion, Curatives, and Legendary  
Practitioners—A Plague Doctor Redux**

BIJULAL M. V.

*School of International Relations and Politics,  
Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala,*

**Hegemonic Lore in rituals and social memories  
in wetland paddy regions, Upper Kuttanadu,  
Kerala India.**

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## NOVEMBER 10

MODERATOR

THEO MEDER

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BENJAMIN RADFORD

*(Journalist, Author, Paranormal Investigator and  
sceptic, USA)*

**Folklore and Public Health: Partners in  
Mitigating Medical Misinformation.**

JOHN BODNER

*(Social and Cultural Studies, Grenfell Campus,  
MUN, Canada)*

**Where do Contemporary Legends Fit In?  
Conspiracy Theory & its Conglomerate  
Construction**

THEO MEDER

*(Meertens Instituut and University of Groningen, The  
Netherlands)*

**From 5G to Yellow Stars of David- Pandemic  
Protest and Ostensive Action against ‘the  
Elite’.**

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## NOVEMBER 11

MODERATOR

ANOOP V./ SUDHAKARAN K.M

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APHRODITE-LIDIA NOUNANAKI

*(Phd Candidate,  
National and Kapodistrian University of  
Athens, Greece)*

**Conspiracy theories about the  
pandemic of Covid-19 on the Greek  
web.**

ANDREW ROBINSON

*(Senior Lecturer in Photography Centre  
for Contemporary Legend*

*Sheffield Hallam University, England,  
U.K.)*

**Sticky Tape, Packing Crates and  
Potted Plants**

**in Urinals - Managing Space During  
the U.K. Covid Lockdown.**

**Panel Discussion**

**Moderator: Harisa P.A/ Nikhil  
Mathew**

**A panel from Central America,  
jointly done by Jessica Perez and  
Tatiana Becerra from McGill  
University.**

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