



19th International Conference of Medical Arthropodology

on

“Malaria and other Vector-borne & Zoonotic Diseases:
Taxonomy, Diagnosis, Surveillance and Control”

and

10th International Conference of Association of
Entomologists on "General Entomology"

To achieve the objectives of



10-12 December, 2026
Patiala, Punjab



insects → people



Organized by :

Department of Zoology & Environmental Sciences

Punjabi University, Patiala-147 002 (Punjab) India

in joint collaboration with

Association of Entomologists and Society of Medical Arthropodology

Sponsored by :



Abhignya Biotech Innovations



Scientific Publishers, Jodhpur



United Travels Pvt. Ltd., Madurai



SOMA

While remitting Reg. Fee please essentially write, "Registration Fee for "19th SOMA Conference" in the payment message. Send a copy of bank acknowledgement to abktyagi@gmail.com cc. to (i) brnaik@osmania.ac.in & (ii) shivabt07@gmail.com

Fill this Form for Logistics: <https://forms.gle/uMK1eZXDALn1ie566>



UPI ID : 62508094822@sbi
(Please scan to register)

Cordial Invitation

Dear Colleagues,

SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ARTHROPODOLOGY (SOMA; www.soma16.org) and ASSOCIATION OF ENTOMOLOGISTS are a non-profit scientific societies, devoted to the enhancement of knowledge about arthropods including insects, ticks, mites, spiders, scorpions, centipedes and millipedes etc. of biomedical, agricultural, bioengineering, bio-pharmacological, and nutritional significance – with an aim of serving science and society.

Medical Arthropodology (comprising medical entomology, medical arachnology, medical myriapodology and Medical carcinology) is an incredibly exciting and integrated discipline defined by a three-dimensional principle of its novel functioning.

Although, most of the arthropods are not harmful, rather are beneficial, to humans, nevertheless some of them (app. 10% of species), under the Classes of Insecta and Arachnida concern humans owing to their varied obnoxious behaviour such as injuries through their poisonous bites and/or stings, and, above all, by playing a key role in transmitting a large number of deadly and/or debilitating diseases. Vector-borne & Zoonotic Diseases, caused by either parasites, bacteria or viruses. These VB&ZDs account for more than 17% of all infectious diseases worldwide, causing more than 700,000 deaths annually. Many arthropod-borne infections have in past made a spectacular come back with devastating impact (e.g., chikungunya, zika virus) , while some others sprang up with an unseen complexity and novelty such as that of COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2. Consequently, Emerging and re-emerging vector-borne and zoonotic diseases the world over have now assumed a greater degree of significance than ever before! Among the numerous infectious agents reported globally, 60% of pathogens were found to have a history of zoonotic origin (e.g., Lyme disease, Rocky mountain spotted fever rickettsiosis, Ross fever, West Nile, dengue, Zika virus, chikungunya, malaria, WEE, EEE, Japanese encephalitis, Khyasanur Forest Disease, Scrub typhus, Powassan, human anaplasmosis, babesiosis etc.). They have all posed serious challenges for their control due mostly to rapid geographic expansion of the vectors, anthropization and, above all, favourable Climate Change and Global Warming. The situation is indeed grim and need their tackling through consilience.

Solution to manage the future emerging and reemerging infections lies in the scientific endeavours and implementation of necessary preventive and curative measures intelligently and diligently with the aid of efficient modern tools and strategies in an integrated manner.

The **19th SOMA International Conference of Medical Arthropodology on "VECTOR-BORNE & ZOONOTIC DISEASES"** and the **10th International Conference of AOE** in all aspects of entomology will hopefully provide a unique opportunity to bring all the possible knowledge at one platform for an extensive deliberation and solution-finding exercise.

With kindest regards, and looking forward to having your active participation in this unique melange of international conferences, we remain,

Yours sincerely,

Prof. (Dr.) Onkar Singh Braich, Prof. (Dr.) Jagbir Singh Kirti and Prof. (Dr.) B.K. Tyagi

The Department of Zoology & Environmental Sciences

The department of **Zoology & Environmental Sciences** was established in June 1968, the department is one of the oldest and largest in the esteemed **Punjabi University**, Patiala, Punjab, India. It has contributed immensely for the development of animal sciences and zoological studies in Punjab as well as North West India. Due to excessive environment degradation happening in the Globe, the role of educational institutions is of immense significance with regard to issues relating to environment, such as understanding the environmental conservation, biodiversity, ecosystem features, sustenance of healthy environment etc.

Realizing this, M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs have been introduced in environmental sciences recently and the department is now known as Department of Zoology and Environmental Sciences. This Department has been recognized by NAAC peer team as one of best science department of the University. It has been selected as FIST sponsored department by DST, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, to build up the infrastructure for post graduate teaching and research in 2006. The UGC has supported the department with DRS- I & II project under SAP since 2007. The in-position faculty has earned acclaim at the National and International levels. The faculty members of the Department have been actively engaged in promoting research in diverse fields such as Medical and forensic Entomology, Biodiversity, Cell and Molecular Biology, Animal Physiology, Cytogenetics, Insect systematic and Parasitology. The Department has successfully completed 44 major research projects funded by different agencies (UGC, DST, CSIR, ICAR, USPL-480, MoEF, PSCST and PPCB). Seven major research projects are in progress. The department has produced 128 PhDs and more than 100 M.Phil students. Besides this, as many as 1100 M.Sc. students have successfully completed their post graduation and awarded degrees. The department is known for organizing National and International conferences/symposia/Workshops. So far, 14 such conferences have been organized by this institution, out of these 7 were International (2000, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2021 and 2026), and 7 National.

The Department has contributed more than 1140 research papers in different National and International journals of repute, which are in addition to 53 books published till date.



Punjabi University, Patiala, Punjab

Punjab Assembly established **Punjabi University, Patiala** under the Punjab Act No. 35 of 1961. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the then President of India laid foundation of Punjabi University on June 24, 1962. He preached, “The institutes of higher education share the burden of nation-building in a critically important sense. Our aim is a strong, free and democratic India where every citizen has an equal place and full opportunity of growth. In this task, a vast responsibility rests on our universities.” Established on April 30, 1962 in the erstwhile princely state of Patiala with the main objective of furthering the cause of Punjabi language, art and literature, Punjabi University has since evolved into the largest University in the state. This is the second University in the world to be named after a language, the first being Hebrew University of Israel.

Its vision is to establish and incorporate a University for the advancement of Punjabi studies and development of Punjabi language as a medium of instruction or otherwise for providing instruction in humanistic and scientific subjects and generally for the promotion of education and research. The University started working from its present lush green, pollution free, 316 acres campus since 1965.



Initially University’s jurisdiction area was fixed as the 16 km radius having only 9 colleges. In 1969, it grew into an affiliating university, with 43 colleges affiliated to it. Now the university caters to the educational needs of nine Districts of Punjab. Over the time since its inception, the University has evolved into a multi-faceted and multi-faculty educational institution for the promotion of higher education and research in Humanities, Arts, Sciences, Engineering Languages, Technology and many more. Spread over 316 acres of land, its 1500+ teachers are imparting instruction and guidance to nearly 14,000+ students in a multi-faceted, multi-pronged and multi-faculty environment comprising 70+ Teaching and Research Departments/Chairs on its Campus, 27 Regional Centre/ Neighbourhood Campuses/Constituent Colleges and 274 Colleges affiliated to it.

The City of Patiala

Patiala, the royal heart of Punjab, is strategically located in the southeastern part of the state at approximately 30.33°N 76.40°E. Founded in 1763 by Baba Ala Singh, the progenitor of the Phulkian dynasty, the city's history is inextricably linked to the formidable Qila Mubarak—a stunning synthesis of Rajasthani and Mughal architectural styles that served as the residence of the Patiala kings. Culturally, the city is a vibrant tapestry famous for the "Patiala Shahi" turban, the intricately embroidered Phulkari textiles, and the spirited "Patiala Peg." It is also the birthplace of the Patiala Gharana, one of the most prominent lineages of Hindustani classical music. While the city is a major center for Sikhism—home to the historic Gurdwara Dukh Niwarán Sahib, where thousands seek spiritual healing—it maintains a harmonious religious landscape where grand Gurdwaras coexist with ancient Hindu temples like the Shri Kali Devi Temple. This blend of aristocratic legacy, robust Punjabi folklore, and deep-rooted spiritualism makes Patiala a unique bastion of heritage in modern India.



- 1 Qila-Mubarak
- 2 Sheesh Mahal
- 3 Moti Bagh Palace
- 4 Ancient Patiala House
- 5 Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports
- 6 Gurudwara Dukhniwaran Sahib, Patiala



Society of Medical Arthropodology

The **Society of Medical Arthropodology** (SOMA; www.soma16.org), established in 2016 as a non-profit scientific society, is a unique scientific association devoted to the enhancement of knowledge about arthropods for their biomedical, pharmacological, bioengineering and nutrition significance – with an aim of serving Science and Society. The Society works as a “Global Family of Friends” comprising under one single umbrella all the public health and veterinary researchers from across the world. The society is interested in promoting Arthropodology through:

- (i) the encouragement of understanding, cooperation and friendship among medical arthropodologists throughout the world,
- (ii) encouragement of international collaboration in medico-arthropodological research activities and services,
- (iii) planning and organization of national/international symposia and regional meetings of medico-arthropodologists, and
- (iv) conservation of arthropods of pharmacological and nutritional importance, and their natural habitats through taxonomic and biodiversity explorations.

How to reach the Venue

To reach the **Punjabi University, Patiala** (Punjab), India you can follow these detailed directions given below, based on common modes of transportation:

- **By Air:** The nearest major airport to Patiala are Chandigarh and Delhi International Airports, which are approximately 55 and 265 kilometres away from the university, respectively.
- **Train:** Patiala has a modern Railway Station just 10 km away from. Various types of cabs (UBER, OLA, Bharat Taxi etc.) are readily available and can be booked via App or in person on the Counter.
- **By Road:** Patiala is well-connected by road and can be accessed from various cities in Punjab and from Delhi (265 km).

Places to visit in Patiala City

Patiala, known for its rich Punjabi heritage, offers a blend of royal palaces, lush gardens, and historic religious sites. Key attractions include the 18th-century Qila Mubarak complex, the mirror-work-filled Sheesh Mahal, the grand Moti Bagh Palace, the sacred Gurudwara Dukh Niwaran Sahib, and the scenic Baradari Gardens. There are other many tourist sites in and around Patiala.

Patiala is also a great shopping place. The Patiala Salwar-Kurta is world famous here.



International Conference on

Malaria and other Vector-borne & Zoonotic Diseases: Taxonomy, Diagnosis, Surveillance and Control Challenges and Opportunities in Public & Veterinary Health and all aspects of Entomology

- i) Prognosis, Epidemiology, Diagnosis, Control and Management of emerging and re-emerging —
 - (a) Viral Diseases,
 - (b) Fungal Diseases,
 - (c) Bacterial Diseases,
 - (d) Protozoan diseases
 - (e) Helminthic diseases, and
 - (f) Zoonotic Diseases
- (ii) Medical Arthropodology (Medical/Veterinary/Forensic Entomology, Arachnology, Myriapodology and Carcinology).
- (iii) Taxonomy and identification of Vectors.
- (iv) Vector Biology and Ecology.
- (v) Vector and pathogen bioengineering research.
- (vi) Control and Management of Vectors.
- (vii) Climate Change and its impact on emerging and re-emerging diseases.
- (viii) Arthropods, especially insects, as human food and animal feed - "THE ORIGIN OF BROWN REVOLUTION".
- (ix) Use of AI in taxonomy, vector identification and pathogen transmission.
- (x) Arthropods in developing integrated tools and novel functional systems.
- (xi) Arthropod bites, Stings, envenomation and other health hazards

Abstract Submission

The participants are requested to send a copy of the abstract for oral /poster presentation not exceeding 250 words (in WORD, 12 pt, single space, without References, Tables or Figures, through e-mail to: icma2026pup@gmail.com, with a cc to Prof. (Dr.) Onkar Singh Braich (head_zoology@pbi.ac.in) on or before **30th July, 2026**. ALL ABSTRACTEES WILL HAVE TO INVARIALLY REGISTER WITH FEES PAID.

Posters should be 4x5 ft in size. A Poster should be representative to a future manuscript; with structured details aided with appropriate Table(s) and Figure(s) as well as References.

Abstracts must be based on ORIGINAL research and should have a clear Title, which should be followed by Names of authors, and next by their affiliations. The Abstract should be prepared in a structured style as: Title, Summary, Background, Material & Methods, Observations & Results and Discussion.

If more than one author, the presenting Author's name should be underlined. His/Her Email must appear at the end of his/her affiliation.

Registration

Registration fee for the Conference will be as follows:

Category	Early Registration	Spot Registration
Student	Rs. 900	Rs. 990
Research Scholars	Rs. 2500	Rs. 3500
SOMA Life Members	Rs. 3000	Rs. 4000
Faculty/Scientist	Rs. 3500	Rs. 4500
Accompanying person	Rs. 1500	Rs. 2500

Registration and Abstract submission are open now. Registration fee should be paid in favour of Society of Medical Arthropodology by way of Bank Account e-Transfer to the bank details given below.

N.B.: Acceptance of an Abstract is subject to duly paid Registration Fee with Form filled and submitted with bank proof to Prof. (Dr.) B.K. Tyagi (abktyagi@gmail.com) with CC to Prof. (Dr.) B. Reddya Naik (brnaik@osmania.ac.in) and Dr. Sambashiva D. (shivabt07@gmail.com).

Bank Account Details for Registration Fee Payment

Please note that Registration fees are to be made out to **Society of Medical Arthropodology (SOMA)** through scanning the QR and/or the IMP/NEFT etc. to the SOMA bank details given below. Those scientists/faculty members who wish to join Society of Medical Arthropodology as Life Member before Registration, may also use these methods but please submit electronically simultaneously the bank acknowledgement via an email directly to the SOMA President, **Prof. B.K. Tyagi** (abktyagi@gmail.com), with cc to (i) the Treasurer General, **Prof. B. Reddya Naik** (brnaik@osmania.ac.in) and (ii) Treasurer General, **Dr. Sambashiva D.** (the Registration fee can be paid in :

Account Details

1. Name of A/C holder : **Society of Medical Arthropodology**
2. A/c No. of Pass Book : **6 2 5 0 8 0 9 4 8 2 2**
3. Bank : **State Bank of India, Hyderabad**
4. Bank Branch : **Osmania University, Hyderabad**
5. IFS Code : **SBIN0020071**
6. MICR Code : **500004044**

Alternatively, this QR can be also scanned for paying Registration Fee.



While remitting Reg. Fee please essentially write, "Registration Fee for 18th SOMA Conference" in the payment message. Send a copy of bank acknowledgement to Prof. Dr B.K. Tyagi (abktyagi@gmail.com) with CC to Prof. Dr B. Reddya Naik (brnaik@osmania.ac.in) and Dr Sambashiva D. (shivabt07@gmail.com)



Accommodation

All participants will be accommodated in the Punjabi University Guest Houses and or hostels, if necessary, on subsidized rates. Those who wish to stay in city hotels will be required to make their own arrangements, with the help of conference organizers. Please enquire in advance, preferably before **30th October, 2026** about the nearby good hotels. Please contact **Prof. (Dr.) Onkar Singh Braich** (icma2026pup@gmail.com).

The Venue

The venue of Conference will be at the Punjabi University. The University Campus is located less than 10 km from railway station/City Bus Stand, well connected from major cities incl. Delhi by road/train. The nearest airport is **Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport** in Chandigarh, about 63 km only. From Delhi, the distance is covered in less than 4 hours by cab/taxi on road.

The Climate

The climate is expected to be very pleasant with low temperature during December, dotted with occasional showers. The minimum-maximum temp. range between 5° C to 20° C.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chief Patrons



Prof. (Dr.) Jagdeep Singh
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
Punjabi University,
Patiala, Punjab, India

&



Prof. (Dr.) Devinder Singh
Pro-Vice Chancellor (Administration)
Chandigarh University, Mohali,
Punjab, India

Patron



Dr. Vijay Veer
Ex-Director
DRDO-DRL
Tezpur, Assam



Prof. (Dr.) R.S. Sharma
Ex-Additional Director
NCDC
Delhi



Prof. (Dr.) Karim M. Maredia
Michigan State University
USA



Prof. (Dr.) Sajal Bhattacharya
Asutosh College,
Kolkata (WB)



Prof. (Dr.) Reddy B. Naik
HOD, Zoology Deptt. &
Director, SRRIP, Osmania
Univ., Hyderabad



Convenor & Organizing Secretary
Prof. (Dr.) Onkar Singh Brraich
Head, Department of Zoology and
Environmental Sciences,
Punjabi Univ., Patiala (Punjab), India



Int'l Conference Coordinator
Prof. (Dr.) B.K. Tyagi
President, Society of Medical Arthropodology
& Chairman of the Standing Committee for
the Organization of International Conferences



Int'l Conference Coordinator
Prof. (Dr.) Jagbir Singh Kirti
President
Association of Entomologists



Int'l Conference Co-Coordinator
Prof. (Dr.) Himendra Bharti
Department of Zoology and Environmental
Sciences, Punjabi University, Patiala



International Conference Local Organizing Secretary
Prof. (Dr.) Amritpal Singh Kaleka
Joint Secretary
Association of Entomologists

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prof. Nilmini Silva Gunawardene
SriLanka

Prof. Eric Benbow, USA

Prof. Indra Vythilingam, Malaysia

Dr. Meghnath Dhimal, Nepal

Dr. Rui-DeXue, USA

Dr. David Williams, Australia

Prof. Donald Shepard, USA

Dr. Marriane Sinka, UK

Prof. Karim Maredia, USA

Prof. S.N. Surendran, Sri Lanka

Dr. Mohammad Nazrul Islam
Bangladesh

Prof. Theeraphap Chareonviriyaphap
Thailand

Dr. Rajiv Ravi, Malaysia

Dr. R.E. Harbach, UK

Prof. (Dr.) Lee Ching NG, Singapore

NATIONAL ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Rina Tilak

Pune

Dr. P.K. Srivastava

Delhi

Prof. N. Chandrasekaran

Vellore

Dr. Kalpana Baruah

Delhi

Dr. Rajanikant Dixit

Delhi

Dr. Roop Kumari

Delhi

Dr. Dhriti Banerjee

Kolkata

Prof. Dhiraj Saha

Darjeeling

Prof. Abhijit Mazumdar

Burdwan

Dr. Ashwani Kumar

Chennai

Dr. Surajita Banerjee

Kolkata

Dr. Himmat Singh

Delhi

Prof. (Dr.) Jaswinder Singh

Amritsar

Dr. R. Paramasivan

Madurai

Dr. R. Asokan

Chennai

Prof. Sudhakar S.

Trinelveili

Dr. Alex Eapen,

Chennai

Dr. Devendra Kumar

Udaipur

Prof. Lachhman Das Singla

Ludhiana

Prof. N. Gopalan

Thiruvavur

Dr. Sambashiva Darawath

Hyderabad

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prof. (Dr.) Gurinder Kaur Walia

Dr. Madhu Bala

Dr. Meenakshi Bharti

Dr. Abhinav Saxena

Dr. Harneet Kaur

Dr. Kamalpreet Kaur

IMPORTANT DATES / DEADLINES TO REMEMBER

Conference Dates :

10-12th December, 2026

On-Spot Registration :

On 10-12th December, 2026 (with 500/- extra)

Early Registration :

On or before 30th July, 2026

Abstract submission Last Date :

On or before 30th July, 2026



Guru Teg Bahadur Hall
Punjabi University, Patiala, Punjab, India

Plenary / Keynote Lectures

1. Plenary Lecture **Prof. Dr Devinder Singh**
Pro VC, Chandigarh Univ., Mohali, Punjab, India
2. Keynote Lecture **Prof. Dr B.K. Tyagi**
President, SOMA
3. Keynote Lecture **Dr Ipsita Paul Bhowmick**
ICMR-RMRC, Dibrugarh
4. Keynote Lecture **Prof. L.D. Singla**
GAD Vet. & Ani. Sciences University, Ludhiana, Punjab
5. Keynote Lecture **Dr Ranjana Jaiswara**
Chandigarh University, Chandigarh
6. Keynote Lecture **Dr Vijay Veer**
Former Director, DRL (DRDO), Tezpur, Assam
7. Keynote Lecture **Prof. Dr Jagbir Singh**
Former Head, Deptt. of Zool. & Env't Sci, PU, Patiala
8. Keynote Lecture **Prof. Dr B. Reddy Naik**
Head, Zool. Deptt. & Dir., SRRIP, OU, Hyderabad
9. Keynote Lecture **Dr R.S. Sharma**
Former Scientist, SAG Level & Ex. Addl. Dir., NCDC, Delhi
10. Keynote Lecture **Dr Rina Tilak**
Former Scientist 'G', AFMC, Pune
11. Keynote Lecture **Prof. E. Pushpalatha**
Former Head, Zool. Deptt., Calicut Univ., Kerala
12. Keynote Lecture **Prof. Dr N. Gopalan**
Deptt. of Epidemiol. & Pub. Hlth., CUTN, Thiruvapur
13. Keynote Lecture **Prof. Dr Devinder Kaur Kocher**
Zoology Department, PAU, Ludhiana
14. Keynote Lecture **Dr Sunil Dhiman**
DRDO-DRDE, Gwalior
15. Keynote Lecture **Dr Sambashiva Daravath**
Assistant Professor, Nizam Coll. (OU), Hyderabad
16. Keynote Lecture **Dr P.K. Srivastava**
Ex-Jt. Dir., NCVBDC, Delhi
17. Keynote Lecture **Dr Varun Tyagi**
Eurofins Advinus Agrosci. Serv. India Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru
18. Keynote Lecture **Prof. Dr Abhijit Mazumdar**
Zoology Deptt., Burdwan Univ., Burdwan
19. Keynote Lecture **Prof. Dr Dhiraj Saha**
Head, Zoology Univ., North Bengal Univ., Siliguri
20. Keynote Lecture **Dr Kalpana Baruah**
Ex-G (H Gr), NCVBDC
21. Keynote Lecture **Dr Manas Sarkar**
Reckitt Benckiser, Gurgaon
22. Keynote Lecture **Dr Roop Kumari**
Chairperson & MD, CARAH Women Foundation, Delhi
23. Keynote Lecture **Dr R.K. Dixit**
Scientist 'E', ICMR-NIMR, Delhi
24. Keynote Lecture **Dr Himmat Singh**
Scientist 'E', ICMR-NIMR, Delhi
25. Keynote Lecture **Dr A.N. Shriram**
Scientist 'D', ICMR-VCRC. Puducherry





Nabha Observatory
Punjabi University
Patiala, Punjab, India

ADDRESS FOR ALL CORRESPONDENCE & ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

PROF. (DR.) ONKAR SINGH BARRAICH

Head, Department of Zoology

Department of Zoology and Environmental Sciences,

Punjabi University Patiala- 147002 (Punjab), India

Mobile: 8146583347 • Phone: 0175-5136334, 0175-5136335

Email: head_zoology@pbi.ac.in