

Fifth Annual Conference on Ageing

AGEING IN A DIGITAL WORLD: RETHINKING INEQUALITY, ACCESS, AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

Conference dates:
8-9 October, 2026

Venue:
Indraprastha Institute of
Information Technology Delhi
(IIITD)

Organised by International Institute of Migration and
Development (IIMAD) and Indraprastha Institute of
Information Technology Delhi (IIITD)



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Accelerated advances in digital infrastructures are amongst the defining technological transformations in the late twentieth century, fundamentally reshaping social, economic, political and cultural life across the world. Even as their market diffuses into increasing numbers, their use is not universal. The contemporary world marked by "informational blackholes" (Castell 1998) which complicate participation for many within this "new" age. Generational difference, as Norris (2001) argues, is a key feature of adaptation to this digital age, with older adults taking up their usage at a much slower rate in comparison to other age demographics. Yet, the increasing integration of digital technologies into everyday practices, ranging from healthcare, financial services, entertainment and governance, coupled with the exponential growth of older adult population across the globe, has a profound impact on how ageing is experienced, governed and understood. Several interrelated issues arise because of this intersection.

Firstly, although digital infrastructures have the potential to widen participation, enhance autonomy and well-being in later life, they also tend to reproduce and sometimes aggravate existing social inequalities. Unequal digital access and digital literacy often intersects with existing inequalities of race, class, caste, disability, gender and geography to produce what has been termed as "grey digital divide" (MubarakF,etal.,2022). Secondly, growing reliance on algorithmic decision-making, data-driven systems and platform-mediated interactions pose significant questions about agency, autonomy and surveillance of ageing populations in the digital world. Thirdly, although ageing is most frequently framed through narratives of "decline" and "dependency", such framings obscure the diverse ways in which older adults creatively engage with, negotiate or even resist digital systems in their everyday lives. Finally, digital infrastructures are not neutral but are shaped by broader social, economic, and political logics, raising a critical question as to how ageing populations and associated shifts might lead one to challenge dominant assumptions embedded in digital systems.

This conference seeks to bring together scholarship that critically interrogates these transformations. We invite contributions that engage with empirical data, theoretical debates and policy analysis to examine how digital technologies reconfigure later life, intergenerational relations and processes of social transformation. Potential themes include but are not limited to:

- Grey digital divide
- Lived Experience of Digital Ageing
- Digital Gerontechnologies (technologies designed specifically for older adults)
- Intergenerational Relations, Family Dynamics and Digital Culture
- Carebots, Platformisation of Later Life Health, Care and Well-being
- Digital Economies in Later Life
- Ageing and Digital Governance
- Ageing, Surveillance and Privacy in Algorithmic Societies
- Theoretical and policy perspectives on Digital Ageing

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Interested candidates should submit a **TITLE, ABSTRACT (300–500), KEYWORDS (4–6 keywords) and AUTHOR DETAILS** through google form: <https://forms.gle/jDJoMpcrfvrcoppgu6> OR scan the QR code below.

Abstracts will be peer-reviewed. Selected participants will be asked to complete the registration process and submit full papers.

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Deadline: 30th June, 2026
Acceptance Notification: 15th July, 2026
Full Paper Submission: 15th September, 2026
Conference Dates: 8th-9th October, 2026



REGISTRATION FEES (to be paid by selected participants only)

For all participants: INR 4000 (inclusive of GST)
For SC/ST participants: INR 3000 (inclusive of GST)

OUTCOME

Selected papers will be invited as contributions for a Special Issue on Digital Ageing in top peer-reviewed journal.

CONFERENCE CONVENORS

S. Irudaya Rajan
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