

Concept Note



ਅੰਤਰਰਾਸ਼ਟਰੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਓਲੰਪਿਆਡ
International Punjabi Language Olympiad
2023



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International Punjabi Language Olympiad 2023

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Punjab is one of the prominent geopolitical, cultural, and historical regions in South Asia, and is one of the prosperous states of India known the world over for its unique culture, heritage, history, music, tourist places, food, and hospitality. Punjabi music is becoming increasingly popular across the globe. Widely acknowledged as the cradle of civilization, it is a land of ethnic and religious diversity, having borne and shaped a number of religious movements that include Sikhism, Buddhism and Sufism. The Punjabi language, too, finds its origin in the Indo-European linguistic family that includes Persian and Latin.

1.2 Punjab is predominately an agrarian state and its many festivals—*Teej*, *Lohri*, *Basant*, and *Baisakhi*, to name some—are celebrations that mirror the farming ethos. *Bhangra*, the traditional dance of Punjab revolves around, and replicates a farmer's daily life. Historically, Punjab has played host to a number of ethnicities, including the Aryans, Persians, Greeks, Afghans and Mongols, thus bestowed with a rich tangible heritage. Reflecting this history are the countless sites that dot the state: impressive forts & palaces, ancient monuments, architectural marvels and many a battlefield. The Punjabis are widely known to be a lively, hospitable and dynamic people.

1.3 Punjabi language is a very popular language not only in India and Pakistan but this language is also spoken among a significant overseas diaspora, particularly in Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom. A large number of Punjabis have also migrated to the Middle East, in places such as the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait; in East Africa including the countries of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania; and have also emigrated to Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia including Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and Hong Kong. Punjabis have impacted different aspects of development in ways more than one, not only in their own state or the country, but across the world.

1.4 Languages help people to comprehend, analyze, and to relate to their own self and the world; and, are the medium for experiencing the inherent uniqueness of a society and culture

associated with specific languages. Thus, the effects of language learning are beyond language in themselves.

1.5 Punjabis in different states of India, and more so in other countries are emotionally connected to Punjab and many of them intend that their present and future generations remain in touch with Punjab, its language, its rich heritage, guiding history and so on. Hence, an endeavor is made to preserve and promote the aesthetic and intrinsic beauty of Punjabi language by deciding to organize Punjabi Olympiad.

1.6 Here it is pertinent to clarify that there are basically two types of Punjabi language when it comes to the script of writing Punjabi. *Gurmukhi* and *Shahmukhi* are the two scripts used to write the Punjabi language -*Shahmukhi* is prevalent in Pakistan while *Gurmukhi* is used to write Punjabi in India. This Olympiad is going to be conducted in Indian Punjabi i.e. in Gurumukhi script only. The objectives, the roadmap and the modus Operandi and other details to conduct International Punjabi Language Olympiad are set out in the next section.

2.0 Aim, Objectives and Outcomes of International Punjabi Language Olympiad

2.1 Aim: The Punjabi Language Olympiad aims to encourage teenagers to connect to Punjabi language

2.2. Objectives: The specific objectives of conducting organizing International Punjabi Language Olympiad are spelt out as under:

2.2.1 To encourage teenagers to be connected with Punjabi language

2.2.2 To create a global platform for the understanding of Punjabi language among the teenagers

2.2.3 To promote opportunities to inculcate interest and awareness about the deeper understanding of the inherent beauty and uniqueness of Punjabi language

2.2.4 To create connection among Punjabi speaking community globally

2.3 Outcomes of Punjabi Olympiad: The following will be the outcomes of conduction of International Punjab Olympiad:

2.3.1 Creation of robust digital platform for connecting Punjabi speaking students.

2.3.2 Improvement in the proficiency of Punjabi language amongst teenagers.

2.3.3 Promotion of interest and appreciation of Punjabi language.

3.0 The Roadmap and the Modus Operandi

Organizing International Punjabi Language Olympiad among school students worldwide is intended to be a significant endeavor to promote the language and foster cultural understanding. For meticulously planning and conduct of International Punjabi Olympiad in a time bound manner, a main committee and some sub committees have been formed. The objectives and goals for conducting International Punjabi Olympiad are clearly defined. The detailed roadmap to conduct this event is set out as under:

3.1. Date and Location: The Olympiad is going to be conducted in on-line mode only for which a dedicated team has already been put on task. The tentative date of holding the Olympiad is 9th-10th December 2023.

3.2. Curriculum, Syllabus & Structure: Curriculum and Syllabus for the Olympiad has been developed with the help of Punjabi scholars and experts. The Syllabus and content for the Olympiad is to be available on the website <https://www.olympiad.pseb.ac.in>. The syllabus of IPLO covers various aspects of the Punjabi language, including grammar, vocabulary, writing and cultural knowledge. The Olympiad would have 50 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) to be attempted over a period of 40 minutes with a score 50 marks. The 50 MCQs will be further designed in such a way to contain 40 questions based on the given content and the remaining 10 questions to be based on learning outcome as per the given syllabus.

The question papers will be of two different difficulty levels – one based on Punjabi as the first language and that will be for participants of Punjab; the other one based on Punjabi as the second language will be for all other students. Sample papers will be uploaded on the website for giving participants idea as to the type of questions which may be set in the Olympiad. The mock test of IPLO is also made available on the website.

The syllabus is designed keeping in mind inter and intra country differentials as also the targeted age-group. The syllabus and the content as also question bank for preparation for the Punjabi Olympiad is made available on the website of the PSEB which can be accessed and downloaded free of cost. Copy of study material is also attached herewith IPLO 2023.

3.3. Target student group and Time Zone for conduct of Punjabi Olympiad: The targeted group for Punjabi Olympiad is students of 8th and the 9th class (up to the age of 17 years) from India, America, Australia, Europe and other countries. For the facilitation of prospective participants residing in different parts of the world, the Punjabi Olympiad is to be conducted as per six time zones, viz. Punjab; India (other than Punjab); Australia & New Zealand; UK & Europe; USA & Canada; and UAE & Others. The Punjabi Olympiad will remain open for 2 hours in each of the 6 zones.

3.4. Registration: Online registration for IPLO 2023 begins w.e.f. 25-10-2023 on the portal of PSEB.

3.5. Fee for the Punjabi Olympiad: INR 200/- per student for Indian students in India and Rs. 800/- per student for international participants.

3.6. Result and Certification: As mentioned earlier, the Olympiad will have 50 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) to be attempted over a period of 40 minutes with a score 50 marks. The result of the Punjabi Olympiad will be processed by the software itself. Certification of the participants will be as per the following categories:

3.6.1. The participants scoring 40 marks or below will be given certificate of 'Participation'.

3.6.2. The participants getting score of 41 to 45 marks will be awarded certificate of 'Appreciation'.

3.6.3. 'Outstanding' certification would be provided to the participants scoring above 45 marks.

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