A two-day National Conference on “Verbal Art: Exploring the Ethnography of Speaking Strategies” is being organised by the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya, India, on the 23rd and 24th of February, 2017.

Participants include scholars from all around the country who specialize in different fields that deal with various aspects of the central theme of the conference. Apart from paper
presentations, there will be poetry performances, readings, declamations, children’s games and dances. Prof. John Zemke, Director of the Center for Studies in Oral Tradition and the Center for Research at the University of Missouri, USA, will also be taking part in the conference.

The sub-themes to be explored for the duration of the conference are as follows:

1. Ethnopoetics
2. Tradition-oriented Communication
3. Idiolect in Tale Telling
4. Gender and Narratology
5. Verbalization and Performance
6. Vernacular Poetics
7. Ethnopaleography and Narrative Construction
8. Critiquing Bascom’s Paradigm of Verbal Art
9. Verbal Art and Construction of Religious Discourse
10. Verbal Art in public and Urban Spheres

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