

## Patrick White Centenary International Conference Hyderabad, India 5-7 November 2012

The Association for the Study of Australasia in Asia (ASAA), in collaboration with the University of Hyderabad, invite the submission of Abstracts for papers to be presented at the above conference.

### Call for Papers

Abstracts not exceeding 200 words should reach the Conference Chairs by 15th June 2012:

- Dr Cynthia vanden Driesen  
[cynthia.v@westnet.com.au](mailto:cynthia.v@westnet.com.au)
- Professor Mohan G. Ramanan  
[mohanramanan1949@gmail.com](mailto:mohanramanan1949@gmail.com)

Please note:

1. In keeping with the multi-disciplinary focus of ASAA, papers on broader issues relating to the Australia/Asia dialogue will also be considered.
2. Papers on Aboriginal issues, a particular interest of Patrick White in his later years, will be welcomed.

### Supported By:

- Australia India Council.
- Westerly Centre, University of Western Australia.
- University of Hyderabad, India
- The Association for the Study of Australian Literature
- The National Library of Australia
- The AustralAsian Centre of the Asia Society
- The International Centre for Landscape and Language, Edith Cowan University

## Registration

<b>Australian</b>	\$200 (AUD)
<b>Indian</b>	Rs 1500/-
<b>Sri Lankan</b>	3500/- SL Rs.

Payment (Bank Cheque/Draft or Money Order) to be made out to "The Association for the Study of Australasia in Asia (ASAA)".

Fee to be paid by 15 August 2012.

Mail payments to:  
University Credit Society  
80 Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009

Payments should be made out to:  
**The Association for the Study of Australasia in Asia (ASAA)**

Account No: **34086** BSB: **806036**

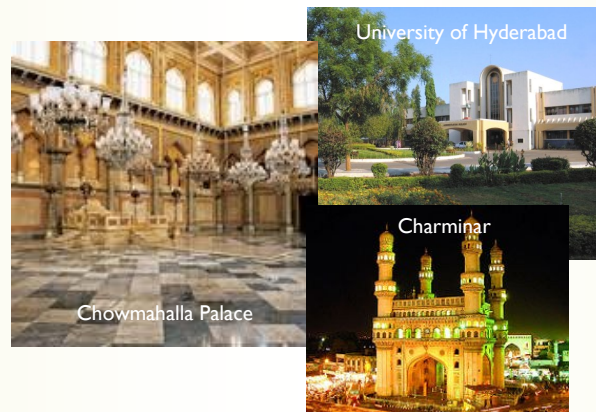
Overseas payments will need the Swift Code:  
**CUSCAU2SXXX**

**Accommodation** - \$50 (AUD) per night  
Please email bookings to Dr K. Suneetha Rani  
([suneetharani@hotmail.com](mailto:suneetharani@hotmail.com))

Payments to be made by individual guests direct to hotel.

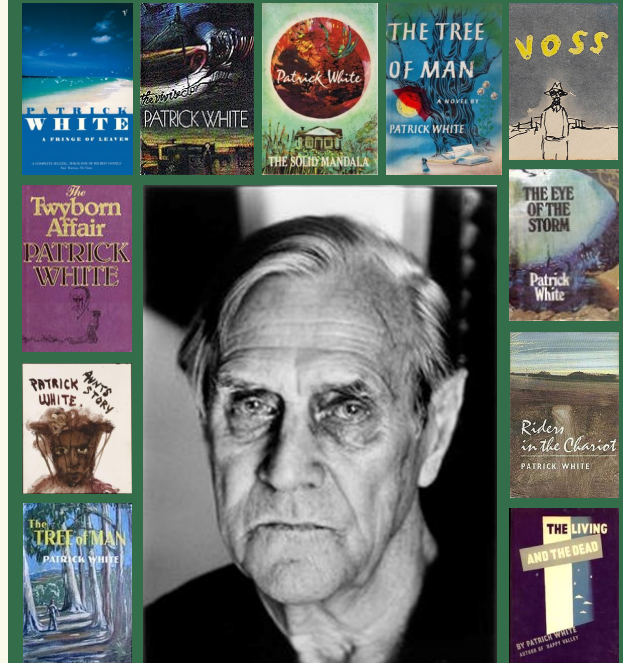
## About Hyderabad

The city of Hyderabad is the capital of the state of Andhra Pradesh in South India, popularly known as the "City of Pearls". Hyderabad is also known for its palaces and historic monuments, including the Golconda Fort, Charminar and Chowmahalla Palace. It is also a hub of Business and Information Technology in contemporary India.



## International Conference PATRICK WHITE CENTENARY Hyderabad, India

### Call for Papers



Organized by:

**The Association for the Study of  
Australasia in Asia (ASAA)**

[www.asaa.net.au](http://www.asaa.net.au)

*in collaboration with*

**The Department of English  
University of Hyderabad**

[www.uohyd.ac.in](http://www.uohyd.ac.in)

**5th - 7th November 2012**

## Conference Committee :

### International Committee

**Dr Cynthia vanden Driesen**  
(Chair)  
President - ASAA (Aus)  
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**Professor Janet Wilson**  
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**Professor Helga Ramsey-Kurz**  
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### University of Hyderabad

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### ASAA - India

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## Association for the Study of Australasia in Asia (ASAA)

The Association was originally established under the name of the **Asian Association for the Study of Australia** in August 1995 as one of the outcomes of the meeting in Sri Lanka of a group of academics from India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore and Australia.

The Association was expanded into the **Asian-Australasian Association for the study of Australasia** in October 1998 at a meeting in Dhvanyaloka, Mysore, India, when New Zealand was admitted into the membership of the Association.

The name of the Association was changed again in 1999 to its present name of **The Association for the Study of Australasia in Asia (ASAA)**.

**Aims:** To bring together individuals, institutions and associations concerned with the study and the teaching of Australasian studies in Asia and to foster interest and promote research in all aspects of Australasian life.

The inaugural conference of the Association was held in Kerala, January 1997. Four more have been held since that date: Mysore in 2000; Kerala again in 2003, Kandy Sri Lanka in 2008, and Hyderabad India in 2011.

Four substantial publications have emerged from these conferences: *New Directions in Australian Studies* (1998), *Austral-Asian Connections* (2001), *Diaspora* (2004), and *Change, Conflict and Convergence: Austral-Asian Scenarios* (2010).

[www.asaa.net.au](http://www.asaa.net.au)

## Patrick White Centenary International Conference Hyderabad, India 5-7 November 2012

The Australian Nobel Prize winning writer, Patrick White, has for long been a formidable presence in the Australian literary context. This was attested by the first ever national conference on a living Australian writer, held in Adelaide in 1978. His significance on the world scene was also evidenced early through the organization of an international conference at the University of Stirling, Scotland (1991). Books and theses on White's work have been generated world-wide even before he was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1973, "for an epic and psychological narrative art which has introduced a new continent into literature". After his death in 1990, the 'Patrick White Modernist Futures Conference', held in 2011 at the University of London, attested a resurgence of interest in White and an emphasis on his contemporary relevance. Staging a conference in Asia, specifically in India, which has been a centre for White studies for decades, to mark the centenary of White's birth, seems entirely appropriate in 2012.

White's massive oeuvre - novels, plays, short fiction, poetry, biography - the voluminous critical commentary these have generated and the personal odyssey of his own life, provide a field for literary, critical and socio-political probing that remains enormously rich in possibilities. While older motifs may be still resurgent, this conference hopes to encourage new and innovative explorations of White's work. The scope for these remains enormous:

- The evolution of White's political sympathies and socio-cultural ethos from that of a scion of a conservative affluent squattocracy to radical activist for Aboriginal rights, republicanism and nuclear disarmament remains largely uncharted;
- Feminist approaches to White's works are scarce, yet his work opens up radical interrogation of feminist issues which are directly relevant to contemporary times;
- Post-colonial re-readings of the texts offer particularly challenging possibilities;
- Literary cross-fertilization: White's influence on Australian and other writers and vice-versa, has inexhaustible potential as White studies expand internationally and nationally.