



# International Association of Geomorphologists

## 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geomorphology

Christchurch, New Zealand, 2–6 February 2026

and

## ICG 2026 Young Geomorphologists Training Program

### “Methods for assessing geomorphic processes and change”

Christchurch, New Zealand 30, January-7 February 2026

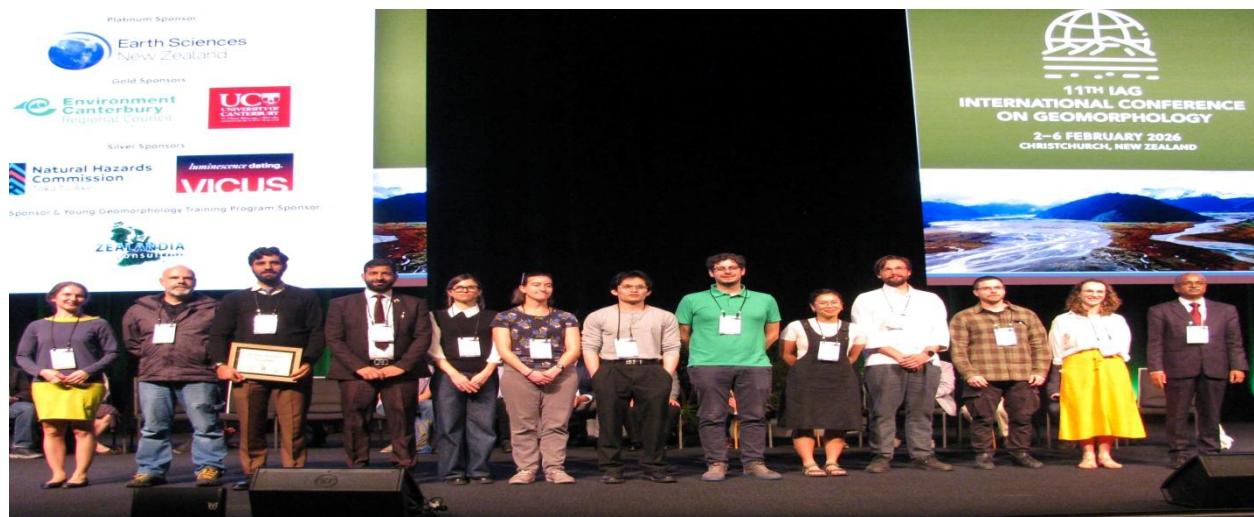
#### Report of IAG grant holder

**Dr. Aadil M. Nanda**

Department of Geography, GDC Ananatnag, J&K HED.

Email- [aadilgeoku@gmail.com](mailto:aadilgeoku@gmail.com)

As a Young Geomorphologist and recipient of an IAG grant holder for 2026, it was an immense privilege to participate in the 11<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology, held from 30<sup>th</sup> January-06 February, 2026 at Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre in the charming city of Christchurch, New-Zealand. I have previously attended the 10<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology and Global Change' in Coimbra in 2022, as well as intensive training course on 'Coastal Geomorphology' at the University of Minho in Guimarães, Portugal which was flawlessly organized by Prof. Antonio Vieira and Prof. Antonio Jose and their colleagues. I am deeply thankful to the IAG and selection committee for their generous financial support, which enabled me to be ranked among the top 20 Young Geomorphologists for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive time. The opening ceremony took place at the Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre on Monday, 02<sup>nd</sup> February, 2026 at 09:00 hours. During the ceremony, the 20 Young Geomorphologists and *Grant Holders* were introduced to the geomorphological community and were later gathered on the dais for a group photograph (Figure 1).



My expectations for the ICG in Christchurch were high, and from the very first day, the conference impressed me, particularly with the remarkable number of geomorphologists across the globe. This significant event provided an invaluable opportunity to discuss, share views and learn from colleagues, academicians, professors, and eminent scientists representing numerous countries including Italy, Poland, Croatia, Iran, Colombia, Brazil, Cameroon, Costa Rica, India, and South Korea (Figure 2). A total of 927 delegates from 45 countries presenting their research through 627 oral & 331 poster presentations, making the scientific program both extensive and stimulating. The 67 sessions were well-organized and fostered engaging discussions that often continued during informal breaks. However, at times, it was challenging to choose between the many fascinating parallel sessions held across the Dobson halls. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the conference, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2026, I presented my oral contribution, titled “Statistical and Numerical Models for Landslide Susceptibility along the National Highway in J&K, India,” in Dobson 2 as part of session 07C: ‘*The geomorphological impacts of landslides and their associated hazards*’ (Figure 3 and 4). Beyond the conference sessions, the venue at the Te Pae convention centre offered wonderful opportunities to explore the spectacular and culturally rich city of Christchurch.

I had also the opportunity to visit several universities in Christchurch, including the University of Canterbury and the University of Otago, where I engaged in discussions with researchers, on past and ongoing scientific work, shared experiences, addressed challenges and explored possible solutions. I am especially thankful to researcher Dr. Abdul Azeez from Nigeria, a researcher at the University of Canterbury, who prepared a delightful cup of coffee-it was truly wonderful and greatly appreciated (Figure 5). Aside from the knowledge, skills, and experience gained at the conference, I had the chance to establish new contacts, build friendships, and exchange future plans with fellow researchers. During tea or coffee breaks and lunches each day, I enjoyed delicious fresh fruits like Gala apples, Granny Smith apples, Cherries, Peaches, Pears, and the specialty green Kiwi fruit of Christchurch.



Furthermore, I had the opportunity to offer Maghrib at the AL-Masjid in Recarton, Christchurch, where I meet many Indian and Pakistani community members. I am extremely thankful to Aarif bhai (Mumbai India) for arranging Noodles, and to Dr. Wajid Ullah, Dr. Kashif Afridi, and Tariq bhai, (Pakistan) for hosting a special dinner- a gesture that will always be remembered. They also kindly guided us through Christchurch's key geomorphological features, including the Avon river/Ōtākaro, coastal geomorphology, the canterbury plains, the port hills, and liquefaction prone areas, providing valuable insights into the region's dynamic landscape. I sincerely thank Tabraiz bhai from Banihal for his generous hospitality in Wellington, including accommodation, meals, and support in visiting key sites such as Scorching Bay Beach, Waterfront Walk, Frank Kitts Park, Wellington Museum, Botanic Garden, Lyall Bay Beach, and Victoria University of Wellington. These visits provided clear insights into Wellington's coastal geomorphology, including wave-cut platforms, rugged shorelines, and active marine erosion. Tabraiz & his better half's kindness in accompanying us and making our three days stay comfortable and memorable is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered-especially by little angel *Anaya*, whose presence made me never feel the absence of my own children. I also thoroughly enjoyed the road journey from Christchurch to Wellington, witnessing diverse & unique natural landscapes, which I had never seen before in my life, particularly around Picton. I also had the pleasure of meeting friends from the 10<sup>th</sup> IAG in Coimbra, including Fran Domazetović, Caio Breda & Maria Corolina. It was a deeply gratifying experience that fostered renewed academic engagement and professional camaraderie. I hope to meet them again at future geomorphology meetings. I deeply acknowledge the IAG for providing me with the prestigious opportunity to represent my country at the global forum. I also extend my gratitude to President Sunil Kumar De, Grant Officer Anita Bernatek Jakiel, and all EC members for their invaluable support in enabling my successful participation in this mega event as a young geomorphologist. Thank you all.

