

Identity, Multiculturalism and Changing Societies: Challenges for Social Psychology in and about Asia

The ever changing complexities of the modern world compel us to confront anew those issues of identity and multiculturalism that have long been at the centre of public debates as well as academic discourses. Social scientists today are faced with a plethora of issues that demand re-analysis and comprehension at various levels- from the individual, cultural groups to larger societies as a whole. Such a gamut of constant and instant transformations in the external world means that we all have to cope with multiple psychological demands that seem to strain the resources of 'childhood'. Consequently, fundamental redefinitions of the self appear inevitable in contemporary times. Celebration of difference, respect for pluralism, recognition of ethnic and minority status and the avowal and redefinition of identity are matters that every society is in its own way grappling with today. Its engagement with these concerns means that the arena of Social Psychology is also faced with the exciting possibilities of paradigmatic changes from within. The discipline of Social Psychology must not only provide answers but also today face the challenge of framing questions in a manner that will enable a deeper understanding of the factors that influence cultural continuity and change. The present conference provides a platform for professionals in the area- and in related fields to share views and perspectives on dynamic new research that is, paradoxically, shaped by the very factors that they seek to investigate.

Venue

The Inaugural ceremony will be held at IIT, New Delhi The Conference will take place at *India Habitat Centre* (IHC), Lodhi Road, New Delhi, between 11-14 of December 2009

For more information visit the conference website: <u>http://web.iitd.ac.in/~caasp09/index.php</u>