



# National Seminar on History of Psychology in India

Date  
18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

Venue  
Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture  
Golpark, Kolkata- 700029, West Bengal, India.

Organized by  
Department of Psychology  
University of Calcutta

In collaboration with  
Ramakrishna Mission Institute  
of Culture Golpark, Kolkata

### Coordinators

Prof. Nilanjana Sanyal  
Professor  
Department of Psychology  
University of Calcutta

Prof. Mallika Banerjee  
Professor  
Department of Psychology  
University of Calcutta

Dr. Sonali De  
Head of the Department  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Calcutta

### Areas of Discourse

- ✓ History of the Department
- ✓ Social Psychology
- ✓ Indian Psychology
- ✓ Military Psychology
- ✓ Neuropsychology
- ✓ Research Methodology
- ✓ Psychoanalysis
- ✓ Evolution of Psychology in India

### Noted Contributors:

- |                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Prof. Ajit Dalal          | Prof. Indranee Pookhon Barooah |
| Prof. Amit Ranjan Basu    | Prof. Janak Pandey             |
| Prof. Anand Prakash       | Prof. Jagadindra Mondal        |
| Prof. Damodar Suar        | Prof. Manas Mandal             |
| Prof. Giriswar Mishra     | Prof. Nilanjana Sanyal         |
| Prof. Hamida Akhter Begum | Prof. Prakash Padakannya       |
| Prof. Honey Oberoi Vahali | Prof. Somnath Bhattacharya     |

### Registration Details

For Registration details kindly visit [www.psychologycentenary.in](http://www.psychologycentenary.in)

#### Critical Dates

Early Registration: January 19 - February 15, 2015  
Late Registration: February 16 - March 1, 2015

	Early Registration	Late Registration
Delegates*	1000	1200
Students*	700	900
Accompanying Person	700	900

\*Registration amount inclusive of lunch, tea and seminar materials

### Mode of Payment:

**Cash:** Facility available only for participants in Kolkata. Registration amount is to be directly deposited at the Department Office, Department of Psychology, University of Calcutta, 92 Acharya Praffula Chandra Road, Kolkata- 700009, between 11 AM – 5 PM.

**Demand Draft:** Demand Draft should be drawn from any nationalized bank, in favour of 'C.U. Psychology Centenary' payable at Kolkata.

**Online Transfer:** Participants can directly transfer registration fees through the facility of National Electronic Fund Transfer.

### Bank Account Details

Account Number : 98210100001603  
Account Name : C.U. Psychology Centenary  
Bank Name : BANK OF BARODA  
Branch : SURYASEN STREET EC  
IFSC Code : BARBOEXTCOL  
SWIFT Code : BARBINBBIBB

**Accommodation:** No direct accommodation facility is available for participants. For details of guest house and hotels, in close proximity to the event venue please refer the conference website [www.psychologycentenary.in](http://www.psychologycentenary.in)

### Contact Details

Department of Psychology, University of Calcutta  
92, Acharya Praffula Chandra Road, Kolkata- 700009.  
**Contact:** Ms. Mahua Chatterjee, Research Scholar, (0)9804514965  
Website: [www.psychologycentenary.in](http://www.psychologycentenary.in)  
Email: [centenary.psy@gmail.com](mailto:centenary.psy@gmail.com)

## 100 years of Psychology in India

The academic arena of the 19<sup>th</sup> century world considered the inclusion of psychology in the realm of science. Owing its origin in the philosophical discourse of the 18<sup>th</sup> century thinkers, it was Wilhelm Wundt of the University of Leipzig, who first realized the importance of studying mental states under certain special experimental conditions. The closing years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century thus witnessed the appearance of a new branch of science, which came to be known as "Experimental Psychology".

Impressed by its promise and progress Sir Asutosh Mukherjee, the well-known jurist and renowned educationist, who was then the planning head of the University of Calcutta decided to include "Experimental Psychology" in the Post-Graduate Course of studies of Calcutta University (Kolkata). Eminent philosopher Dr. Brojendra Nath Seal, King George V Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy of the same University drafted the syllabus in 1905 and established the first laboratory, for demonstrative purpose, on the request of Sir Asutosh Mukherjee. The honour of having the second Experimental Psychology Laboratory in Asia (after Japan) may be attributed to the Department of Psychology, Calcutta University. The beginning of 1916, witnessed the upgradation of the existing laboratory into the *Department of Experimental Psychology* at the University College of Science, Calcutta University premises, in the then 92 Upper Circular Road, Calcutta.

### About the Department

The Journey of Psychology as an independent discipline in India began with the establishment of the Department of Experimental Psychology, in 1916, in Calcutta University. Prof. Narendra Nath Sengupta who had his education at the Harvard University with Hugo Munsterberg, a student of Wilhelm Wundt, was appointed as the first chairman of the Department. Both undergraduate and post graduate courses were initiated in the university department. Under his dynamic stewardship experimental laboratory research works were conducted by this Department, in areas of depth perception, psychophysics, and attention; which in turn inspired early work at other centres, in India. Professor Sengupta has to his credit, the formal introduction of Psychology, as an independent branch of science at the Indian Science Congress in 1923. This milestone perhaps opened the gateway for the discipline to have its own mark in the Indian scenario.

The research tradition crystallizing in Calcutta in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was taken up by Prof. Girindrasekhar Bose. Prof. Bose was working in the classical area of psychoanalysis who was conferred doctoral thesis from Calcutta University for his exemplary work on the 'Concept of Repression', which was the first doctorate in psychology from any Indian University. Similar to Bose-Einstein partnership, the Bose-Freud collaboration had been a pioneer in promoting psychoanalysis in India. In 1922 Prof. Bose founded the Indian Psychoanalytic Society, which two years later was affiliated with the International Psychoanalytic Association. The Department owes its glory to the remarkable works of early scholars of Psychology in India. The noted work on the 'Concept of Instinct' has also been published from this Department in 1928 by Suhrid Chandra Mitra. Shouldered by eminent faculty members and Heads of the Department like Dr. S Sinha, Dr. D. Ganguly, Dr. S. N. Roy, Prof. Shib Kumar Mitra, Prof. R.G. Chatterjee, Prof. R. Kundu, Prof. Somnath Bhattacharya, Prof. G. B. Saha, Prof. Maya Deb, and so on, currently the department has attained the status of being the alma mater of Psychology in India.

Even after completion of 100 years of its establishment, the Department's strength still lies in faculty members who are Commonwealth Scholars, Full brighters, members of national and international organizations and having unique contribution into research oriented work and academic programs. The focus of research work encompasses wide dimensions from stress and its physiological correlates, neuropsychological assessments, psychoanalysis, psychophysiological researches, interpersonal relationship, evaluation of therapeutic efficacy, developmental disabilities, perception and relation, qualitative research, media psychology and so on.. Test construction, development of electronic instruments/gadgets, and very recently software development on Attention, Memory, and Signal Detection etc are another facet of academic persuasion of the department.

Being the first Department in India, we are to host the 100 years celebration in this Department and the psychologists of eminence all over India also are keen to commemorate the celebration in this oldest Department of India. We are proud to mention that the NAOP is collaborating with us; IAAP, IACP and DIPR are also joining us and we are celebrating 100 years together. The Department boasts of its research scholars who regularly are the recipients of grants from UGC, ICMR and also that of Calcutta University individually on their own merit. They also work in different projects sponsored by UGC, AICTE, ICSSR, DST awarded to the faculty members of the department. Another pride of the Department is that it is the first and still now the only University Department to start the course of M.Phil in

Clinical Psychology in India since 2005.

### About The Seminar

#### *Celebration of 100 years of Psychology in India: A Curtain Raiser*

Every discipline has its own frills of glories and challenges, often having an evolutionary course that gets shaped by the ebbs of this ever changing world. Psychology, as one the basic pillars of social sciences, has its own niche areas of applications, research, focal interests and unique challenges that have governed the discourse in India, over almost the last 100 years. In 2015, as the Department of Psychology, University of Calcutta steps into the much awaited centenary year of its establishment, the department takes great pleasure in hosting a two day National Seminar on History of Psychology in India, on 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in Kolkata. The seminar has been organized in collaboration with Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark.

We take it as our privilege to invite participants from across the nation, to be a part of this two day national event. The seminar will be graced by the enlightening presence of senior stalwarts and eminent academicians from the various fields of psychology and related social sciences, joining in from various parts of India including prestigious Indian Universities and Central Institutes including University of Varanasi, Allahabad, Mysore, Guahati, Bihar, Defence Research and Development Organisation, (DRDO, New Delhi), IIT Kharagpur and Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University. The two day seminar would focus on the historical background of the various branches of psychology and their evolution, more particularly from the Indian context. Over the seminar sessions traditional fields of Psychoanalysis, Clinical Psychology, Social Psychology and Experimental Psychology are expected to be covered, along with insights into the modern advances in Indigenous Psychology, Cultural Psychology, Military Psychology, Research Methodology and the paradigm shifts in Social Science Research.

In commemoration of the event, a special one volume compilation of the learned talk by the eminent body of speakers at the event would be published to mark this glorious occasion. The official release of this publication will be done during the Centenary Conference that will be organized by the Department of Psychology, Calcutta University along with the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of NAOP, in October 2015 in Kolkata.