



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON

**Mental Health, National Education
Policy (2020) and
Psychology in Practice**

Date: 4th October 2023

*Supported by World Bank- OHEPEE Programme
Utkal University*

Background

With changing societal and environmental demands on attitude and knowledge of individuals in the 21st century, the constructivist perspective of education has been emphasized by recently introduced National Education Policy (NEP, 2020). It is not just enough for students to reflect on 'what to know'. It is more important for them to become aware of 'how they think', 'how they know' and 'how they learn'. Inculcating a multidisciplinary outlook now is not only essential for a holistic knowledge base, but also to develop critical thinking in students. Moreover, the actualization of fullest potential of every learner requires an innovative pedagogy that aims to attain

requisite outcomes in all major domains, such as, physical, cognitive, social, emotional, moral and spiritual development. The protection of mental health and human dignity requires education to become not only inclusive but also to introduce reforms that bring the highest quality, equity, and integrity into the system.

Psychology, as a discipline and as a profession, has a lot to offer in translating the aims of this new education policy into reality. Understanding the individual needs of both the learner and the educator is a primary concern for the practitioners and policy makers alike. Early stimulation, evaluation of learning potential, input and output in a teaching-learning process, examination anxiety, early dropout, psychological wellbeing of students and teachers, regional and linguistic disadvantage in classrooms, to name a few, have been of interest for psychological research in varied social, cultural, and technological contexts.

This International Conference intends to bring together academics, practitioners, social activists, and the like from Psychology and related disciplines to reflect on the current research and practices pertaining to the goals envisioned in the NEP. This would help in arriving at strategies for creating optimal learning environment both in and beyond classrooms as well as ensuring collective mental health and wellbeing.

Sub themes

- Mental health needs of students
- Learning and Early Childhood Development
- Equity and Inclusiveness in Education
- Educators' Mental Health and NEP 2020
- Language and Culture: Teaching-Learning in context
- Interdisciplinary focus for a holistic knowledge base
- Technology driven leaning

Utkal University

Established in 1943, Utkal University, Vani Vihar is the 17th oldest University of India and the Mother University of the state of Odisha situated in the state capital Bhubaneswar. It is a teaching, research and one of the largest affiliating universities having twenty-seven Post-Graduate and seventeen Self-financing programmes within the campus that include faculty of Humanities and the Social Sciences, Science & Technology, Commerce and Management, Pedagogical Science, Medicine and Law. The second campus of the University came into being in 2019 for catering to the specific needs of rural areas. The University has established several Centres of Excellence under RUSA 2.0 and World Bank-Odisha Higher Education Programme for Equity and Excellence to promote interdisciplinary research including inter-departmental research. The university strives continuously to become an institution of eminence in eastern India with a focus on innovative teaching, research and extension activities.

About Department of Psychology

The Department of Psychology was established in 1953 at Ravenshaw College, Cuttack as an undergraduate Department. It was upgraded to Post-Graduate Teaching and Research Department in 1958, and moved to Utkal University Campus at Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar in 1962. In 1980, it was declared as a Centre of Advanced Study in Psychology (CASP), the first such centre in Psychology in the country, and the only such centre in Odisha. The department has had the CAS status for 29 years. The faculties have contributed to the growth of the discipline through innovative research as well as towards the mental health needs of the community since long. The Department recently celebrated its Diamond Jubilee at Utkal University.

Call for Papers

Submission of original work is invited from prospective authors relevant to the major themes and related areas. The abstract within three hundred words and full paper within four to five thousand words (Times New Roman font of size 12, line spacing 1.5, MS Word) having author's name, designation, institutional affiliation, contact e-mail id and mobile number) should be sent to the following email id : utkalpsyconf@gmail.com

Certificates will be provided to the registered participants who have presented papers in the conference. Certificate for the co-author, who has registered for the conference, is available subject to her presence during the scheduled presentation.

Important Dates

Last date of Abstract submission	31st August, 2023
Communication of Abstract acceptance	7th September, 2023
Submission of Full paper	20th September, 2023
Last date of Registration	20 th September, 2023
Conference date	4th October, 2023
Venue of Conference	Department of Psychology, Utkal University

Registration for the conference can be done by using Google form and online payment. These details will be intimated to the participants during communication of Abstract acceptance.

Faculty/Employees from R&D/Corporates	Rs. 1000/-
Research scholars	Rs. 700/-
Students	Rs. 400/-

(Registration fee includes registration kit and food on the conference day. Travel and accommodation cost will be borne by participants)

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