

MADRAS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

(An Autonomous Institution affiliated to the University of Madras)

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

To Commemorate the Platinum Jubilee Celebration 1952-2023

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION, SOCIAL EQUITY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



2nd and 3rd March 2023



Padmashree Ms. Mary Clubwala Jadhav

(1908 - 1975) Founder & Guiding Spirit of Madras School of Social Work



MADRAS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION (1952-2022)



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION, SOCIAL EQUITY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

<u>Madras School of Social</u> <u>Work</u>

Platinum Jubilee Celebration

Madras School of Social Work founded bv (MSSW), Mary Clubwala Jadhav, was established in 1952, located in Chennai, South India. is an Autonomous Institution, NAAC accredited and affiliated to the University of Madras. The school is run under the aegis of the Society for Social Education and Research (SSER). undertaking The college is community projects to empower the weaker sections marginalized groups in the neighbourhood community and thereby facilitate their sustainable growth and students' enhance learning process. The School is rated as the 4th Best Social Work College in India and first in South India by the Outlook magazine

This year is the Platinum Jubilee year of MSSW's inception. To cherish the contributions made by the College over the years and to continued reaffirm its commitment to society, the college is organising a memorable series of events such as Guru Gallery, Postal Stamp Release, MCJ Endowment Lecture, MCJ Award etc. As a part of the MSSW Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, it is planned organise an "International to Social Work Conference on Education, Social Equity & Social Development" on 2nd and 3rd March 2023, Chennai, India.

Aim of the Conference

The Conference aims to bring together leading academicians, practitioners, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Social Work. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Social Work.

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Convener

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DAY - 1 PRE-INAUGURAL MEETING

REPORT

On the first day of the '**International Conference on Social Work Education, Social Equity and Social Development**', the chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar (Social Activist) met Mr. K. A. Mathew, IAS Retd. (Chairman), Dr. R. Subhashini (Dean), Mr. John Zachariah (Treasurer), Dr. S. Raja Samuel (Principal), Dr. K. Sathyamurthi (Head of the Department of Social Work), Mr. Balaji (President of the Alumni Association) and faculty members of Madras School of Social Work. She also interacted with students and the alumni association members.





At the end of the session, alumni members felicitated Ms. Medha Patkar with a flower bouquet. Ms. Medha Patkar graciously autographed a few copies of her books, which were brought by the alumni members. Overall, the meet was an important and enlightening event for the alumni members of Madras School of Social Work.

GARLAND CEREMONY

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION	
9:49 AM	The esteemed chief guest, Ms. Medha Patkar, graced the occasion by arriving at the event, along with the dignitaries, Mr. K. A. Mathew, IAS Retd. (Chairman), Dr. R. Subhashini (Dean), Mr. John Zachariah (Treasurer), Dr. S. Raja Samuel (Principal), Dr. K. Sathyamurthi (Head of the Department of Social Work), and other esteemed faculties.	
10:01 AM	The esteemed chief guest, Ms. Medha Patkar, and the Chairman of MSSW, Mr. K. A. Mathew, paid homage to the statue of Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav by garlanding.	
10.02 AM	Ms. Medha Patkar, the chief guest, engaged in a conversation with Ms. T. J. Anubhavanya, the President of the Social Work Forum.	
10.03 AM	The delegates proceeded towards the dais for the inauguration of the 'International Conference on Social Work Education, Social Equity, and Social Development'.	

REPORT

After the pre-inaugural meeting, the next event was to garland the statue of Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav (Founder, MSSW) in order to commence the 'International Conference on Social Work Education, Social Equity, and Social Development'. The event was attended by 16 members, including the esteemed chief guest, Ms. Medha Patkar, Mr. K.A. Mathew, IAS Retd. (Chairman), Dr. Subhashini (Dean), Mr. John Zachariah (Treasurer), Dr. S. Raja Samuel (Principal), Dr. K. Sathyamurthi (Head of the Social Work Department), and other faculty members.



The garlanding ceremony began with the arrival of Ms. Medha Patkar and other dignitaries. Ms. Medha Patkar and Mr. Mathew paid homage to the statue of Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav by garlanding. Proceeding which, Ms. Medha Patkar engaged in a conversation with Ms. T. J. Anubhavanya, the President of the Social Work Forum. The delegates then proceeded to the dais for the inauguration of the 'International Conference on Social Work Education, Social Equity, and Social Development'.



Overall, the garlanding ceremony was a momentous occasion, symbolizing the reverence and respect for the contributions made by Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav in the field of social work. The event set the tone for the rest of the conference, which promised to be engaging, insightful, and thought-provoking.





INAUGURAL SESSION

ГІМЕ	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION		
10.02 AM	The chief guest, Ms. Medha Patkar, Social Activist, was welcomed to the dais to begin the inaugural session. She was accompanied by Mr. K.A.Mathew, IAS Retd. (Chairman), Dr. Subhashini (Dean), Mr. John Zachariah (Treasurer), Dr. S. Raja Samuel (Principal), Dr. K. Sathyamurthi (Head of the Department of Social Work), Dr. J. Damen Queen (Assistant Professor), Dr. L. Janaki (Assistant Professor).		
10:05 AM	Tamil Thaivalthu The inaugural session began with the Tamil Thaivalthu song.		
10:07 AM	College song Followed by Tamil Thaivalthu, college song was played in remembrance of the contribution made by the social workers towards the welfare of our society.		
10.10 AM	Chief guest lighting the lamp The chief guest, the faculty members, and the student convenors graced the occasion by lighting the lamp.		
10:12 AM	Welcome address The welcome address was delivered by the Principal, Dr. S. Raja Samuel. He welcomed the dignitaries, faculty members, students, and participants for the two-day International Conference. He extended his heartfelt greeting to the chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar.		
10:16 AM	Presidential address The Presidential address was delivered the Chairman, Mr. K.A. Mathew, IAS Retd. He welcomed the chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar and also thanked Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav the founder of Madras School of Social Work and emphasized about her dedication and commitment exhibited by her in establishing this prestigious institution		
Xmm	Overview of the conference		
10:24 AM	Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, Head of the Department of Social Work, gave a brief report on the conference proceedings for day 1 & 2. He also highlighted that more than 100 participants have registered for the conference, 37 papers have been received from Scholars and Academicians. There are 6 teams who have registered for Mime and Street play competition.		
10:37 AM	Abstract book The chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar released the conference abstract book of the paper presenters		

$A \in \mathcal{A}$	Introduction of the Chief Guest
10:38 AM	Dr. L. Janaki, Assistant Professor (Shift-II) gave a detailed
10.30 AM	introduction about the speaker Ms. Medha Patkar, who led the
	Narmadha Bacho Andolan Movement and is actively involved in
//	social activism
10:41 AM	Felicitation of the Chief Guest (Shawl)
()////	Dr. R. Subhashini, Dean, felicitated the chief guest with a shawl
	Felicitation of the Chief Guest (Fruit basket)
10:42 AM	Mr. John Zachariah, Treasurer, felicitated the chief guest with a
$\lambda///E$	fruit basket
$\gamma \lambda \langle V \rangle$	Keynote address
10:43 AM	The keynote address was delivered by Ms. Medha Patkar, the
	chief guest of the Inaugural session. She highlighted on the issues
<i></i> ////K	faced by the marginalized community and ways to battle
1111	against casteism, communalism, and gender inequality.
-//	Question and Answer session
7777//	After the keynote address, the chief guest answered the questions
11:39 AM	raised by the audience. Exactly 5 participants from the
11	audience asked questions pertaining to the social issues
V	prevalent in the country.
3////2	Felicitation (Memento)
12:07 PM	Mr. K.A. Mathew, IAS felicitated the chief guest with a memento
XXXX	Felicitation (Portrait)
12:08 PM	Mr. S. Sundar, from MSW (Shift-I) felicitated the chief guest
12:00 PM	with a portrait
	Contribution to the National Alliance to People's
/	Movement
1111/	The Student Development Council (SDC) of MSSW along with the
12:09 PM	Presidents of the Social Work Forums handed over a check of Rs.
	32,000 to the chief guest for the welfare of the tribal women.
	(The fund was raised by the college students)
1111	Vote of thanks
12:13 AM	Dr. J. Dameen Queen, Assistant Professor and Program Head
$\langle A \rangle \rangle$	(Shift-II) thanked the chief guest for gracing the occasion.

REPORT

Madras School of Social Work has been a leading institution in the field of social work practice. The college carries out various extension programs for the welfare of vulnerable people in the community. As the institution celebrates its Platinum Jubilee, the 'International Conference Social Work Education, Social Equity and Social Development" was held to commemorate the same.

The Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Susanna David (BSW) and Ms. Krithika (MSW, Shift-II) invited the chief guest to the dais.



She was accompanied by Mr. K.A. Mathew, IAS Retd. (Chairman), Dr. Subhashini (Dean), Mr. John Zachariah (Treasurer), Dr. S. Raja Samuel (Principal), Dr. K. Sathyamurthi (Head of the Department of Social Work), Dr. J. Damen Queen (Assistant Professor), Dr. L. Janaki (Assistant Professor) followed by the student convenors of the social work forums (MSW Shift-I, MSW Shift-II, BSW, MSW Disability & Empowerment).

The inaugural session was held at Open Air Auditorium where more than 400 participants were gathered. The participants from various domains such as the researchers, social work practitioners, academicians, press & media, and our own college students and faculty members witnessed the inaugural session.



The Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Krithika started with a quote said by Albert Einstein. "I am an adherent of the ideal of democracy, although I well know the weaknesses of the democratic form of government. Social equality and economic protection of the individual appeared to me always as the important communal aims of the state. Although I am a typical loner in daily life, my consciousness of belonging to the invisible community to those who strive for truth, beauty, and justice has preserved me from feeling isolated." The session began with Tamil Thaivalthu followed by the College song.



Following which, the Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Susanna David invited the dignitaries on the dais for lighting the lamp since in Indian tradition the warm and bright glow emitting from a 'Diya' is considered auspicious and it represents enlightenment and prosperity.



WELCOME ADDRESS



The welcome address was delivered by Dr. S. Raja Samuel, Principal of Madras School of Social Work. He welcomed the dignitaries on the stage, faculties in the college, speakers for the international conference, participants, members of the press, and the students. He began his session by remembering the 70-year journey of MSSW, which is 70 years of service to the social work profession and to nation building. He also stated that this conference is to introspect the progression made by MSSW in the social work profession and its contribution to social equity and social development.

"And who else can be more befitting to speak about this other than our chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar, the beacon of hope for the displaced, marginalized, and disposed all over the country", he said.

He also highlighted numerous struggles put forth by Ms. Medha Patkar (social activist) for the disempowered person in this country. The principal also acknowledged the role played by the activists and co-workers who fight for the rights of the marginalized communities in the country.

The principal welcomed Mr. K.A Mathew IAS Retd. (Chairman), Mr. John Zachariah (Treasurer), Dr. Subhashini (Dean), and the board members of the institution. He also extended his greetings to the architects of the program Dr.K.Sathaymurthi (Head of Social Work department), Dr. Dameen Queen, Dr. Francis, Dr. Thirumagal (Program Heads of the Social Work Department) and others who worked for the program.



The principal acknowledged the national and international speakers of the two-day conference to share their knowledge and wisdom. He also welcomed the alumni and student convenors. He extended his thanks to the press and media for highlighting the issues related to the marginalized and thanked them for their constant support.

Mr. S. Raja Samuel said, "While we discuss the role of social workers, we echo the words Angela Davis (activist), 'I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept". With this, he once again welcomed the participants to the International Conference.



PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS



The presidential address was delivered by Mr. K.A. Mathew, IAS Retd., Prident of MSSW. He welcomed the chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar and stated that she is a '*leading light of social work practice in India*'. He remembered Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav who established Madras School of Social Work in the year 1952 and her incredible dedication towards the welfare of the people. He spoke about Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav who was intrinsically linked to the welfare of the underprivileged in Madras (now Chennai). He further said, "Adversity brings out the best in human beings, similarly Mary Clubwala Jadhav after losing her husband and only son, she dedicated her entire life to serve the vulnerable people in the society. There were 150 organizations with which she was associated but the most significant institution founded by her is the Madras School of Social Work. This was the first social work school in south India and has produced many social work professionals.".



He mentioned that Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav brought meaning, value, and depth to professional social work practice. He pointed out that her vision to establish MSSW was to promote commitment towards social, economic, and political justice and that her vision of hearing for the less fortunate has been the essence of social work that has helped thousands of people to help themselves. He proudly mentioned that she was awarded many prestigious awards such as Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Vibushan. He further added, "She was also the first lady sheriff of Madras. When she passed away president Mrs. Indira Gandhi described her death as a great loss to the nation. Her vision of helping the marginalized in society and promoting social work has been the mission for the institution and this spirit of service has been extended to the student community."

OVERVIEW OF THE CONFERENCE



Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, Head of the Department of Social Work and the conference convenor gave a brief report on the conference overview for day 1 & 2. He highlighted the activities carried out for the past one year such as establishing the Guru gallery, organizing Mary Clubwala Jadhav (MCJ) awards, MCJ endowment lectures, posters, etc. He said that the 'International Conference on Social Work Education, Social Equity, and Social Development' was organized in commemoration of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Madras School of Social Work.

He noted that the aim of the conference was to bring together academicians, practitioners, researchers, and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of social work. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovation, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of social work.

The conference will help to understand the social work education and practice in India from a cross-cultural perspective internationally. He also highlighted that more than a hundred (100) participants have registered for the conference, and thirty-seven (37) papers have been received from Scholars and Academicians. As an outcome, these papers will be published in a reputed international journal. And six (6) teams registered for Mime and Street Play competition from various colleges in India.



Further, he highlighted that the conference will have insights from eminent experts from India and abroad who are actively involved in the field of social work education, research and practice. He welcomed the chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar (Social activist) who has been working with the people who were disabled due to the Narmada valley development project, a large- scale plan to construct the dam in the Narmada River. She has been actively involved in crucial economic-political issues related to Tribals, Dalits, Farmers, Labourers, and Women facing injustice in India. He said, *"Ms. Medha Patkar is an instrument and role model for social action and social work practice in India."* Further, he thanked the Chairman, Financial Director, Dean, and Principal for their constant support in hosting this event.



Dr. K. Sathyamurthi gave an overview of the conference as follows:

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION, SOCIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

DAY 1				
Name of the Session	Speakers	Title of the Presentation/Discussion		
Plenary session I	Prof. Shantha Balaswamy	Evidence-based practice in social work practice		
	Prof. Pamela Singla	Importance of appropriate methodology and ethical practice		
Plenary session II	Prof. Selwyn Stanley	Importance of social work research ethics, the relationship with policy and administration, and importance of qualitative research.		
	Dr. Shahin Sultana	Advocating for children and adolescents on disasters and their impact on psychological well-being		
Plenary session III	Prof. Rajeswari Natrajan Tyagi	Use of self and self-work in the practice of social work.		
	Thiru. Henry Tiphangne	Knowledge & skills in Human rights essential for social issues.		
Plenary Session IV	Prof. Baiju P Vareed	Identity, power and social work practice		
	Dr. Mangaleshwaran	Mixed method research in social work		

	DAY 1	\\ <i>\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\</i>
Name of the Session	Speakers	Title of the Presentation/Discussion
Panel Discussion	Prof. Joseph Injody	Chairperson of the session
	Dr. R. Sathianathan	Social Work & Mental health
	Dr. Karikalan. N	Socio-behavioural Perspective of Health & Social Work
	Thiru. Kenneth Jeyseelan R.B.	Talent Development and Social Work
	Mr. Aswin Kumar David	Corporate Social Responsibility
	Ms. Aspy Joyson	Social Work & Family and Child Welfare
	Ms. Preethi Mathew	Comprehensive Care Mode for Children in Street Situations.
1111	Street Play & Cultur	al Events
	DAY 2	
VIIII///	Mime Competi	tions
Scien	tific Paper Presentations (I	Four Parallel Sessions)
Name of the Session	Chairperson	Theme of the Session
Session I	Dr. D. Binu Sahayam	Social Work with Women, Adolescents and Children.
Session II	Dr. R. Sakthi Prabha	Social Work and Health
Session III	Dr. S. Sangeeta	Social Work Education and Practice
Session IV	Dr. Pradeep. P. N	Social Work and Human Rights
X	Dr. K. Sathyamurthi	Chairperson for the Session
	Dr. K. R. Anish	Field Social Work
	Dr. Shanmugha Velayutham	Thirukkural and Social Work
Panel Discussion	Thiru. Dillibabu Krishnan	Address on: Tamil Nadu Professional Social Work Council Formation
	Prof. Sigamani Panneer	Policy-Related Social Work Intervention
4	Valedictory Session: Pro	of. Sanjai Bhatt
Chief Guest Valedic	tory Address Pro	of. Sanjai Bhatt
Special Address	Pro	of. Manohar Pawar

Dr. K. Sathyamurthi thanked the experts and the student convenors and welcomed the participants to the international conference.

Announcement



An announcement was made regarding the saree stall put forth by the chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar, the contribution received through the stall was for the welfare of the tribal women.

RELEASE OF BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

The chief guest Ms. Medha Patkar along with the dignitaries released the book of abstracts for the International Conference.





INTRODUCTION OF THE CHIEF GUEST



Dr. L. Janaki, Assistant Professor (MSW Shift-II), introduced the speaker Ms. Medha Patkar as an eminent conservation environmentalist who works to save the ecosystem that preserves nature and people who depend on them. She is also an incredible social worker who works for the welfare of tribals, Dalits, and other marginalized communities' upliftment. She also works for women's emancipation and visualizes for an inclusive society. She led the Narmada Bachao Andolan Movement, and due to her involvement, 35,000 people could get resettlement for their livelihood and still her fight continues for all the other people who were resettled near the valley. She is also a founder member of the "National Alliance for People's Movement." She emphasized on social development rather than infrastructural development. She always insists that the implementation of any development project should be inclusive and indigenized socially and economically. She has also been awarded with national and international awards.

FELICITATION



Dr.R. Subashini, the Dean felicitated the chief guest with a shawl. And Mr. John Zachariah the Treasurer felicitated Ms. Medha Patkar with a fruit basket as a token of love.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS



Ms. Medha Patkar, Social Activist, addressed the gathering at the Open Air Theatre, Madras School of Social Work.

"Aap sabko ek zordar zindhabaad" she said.

She extended her welcome to all the faculty members of the institution and the eminent people who have laid the foundation of Madras School of Social Work. Following this, she specifically welcomed Dr. S. Raja Samuel (Principal), Mr. K.A. Mathew, IAS Retd. (Chairman), Dr. R. Subashini (Dean), Dr. K. Sathyamurthi (Convenor & Head of the Department of Social Work).

She expressed her heartfelt greetings to all the colleagues and comrades of the institution, members, alumni, student supporters and media.

"I salute you all for this fruitful event", said Ms. Medha Patkar. She also added that it was indeed a fruitful day since she received a fruit basket as a taken of love. Moreover, she expressed her pleasure to be present in such an eminent institution which was established by the Land Lady Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav. *"I pay a heartfelt tribute to her. Even I belong to the family of professional social workers, although we are behind school days, we all keep learning more and more about social work", smiled Ms. Medha Patkar.*



She highlighted that "Social Development is inclusive of social, economic and political development. I salute the vast range of activities your institution is committed to." The institution has been active in so many sectors and she said that it would take her hours to read out the annual report of the college. According to her, Madras School of Social Work carries the widest possible vigil not just in academic interventions, but also in inculcating the values in heart. This is also because the institute works in the spheres of child development, human rights, environment, entrepreneurship, and now dealing with a new course on disability and empowerment.

"Vikalang nahi Divyang hote hai" (Disabled, not handicapped)

The eminent speaker added that the title of the two-day international conference titled, "Social Work Education, Social Equity and Social Development" is a great theme that has been put together. She encouraged the institution to achieve more in the field of Social Work, and celebrate diamond jubilee on their 75th year.

To define Social Work, is to include both Social Equity and Social Development. For this, one has to take every single struggle. She emphasized that the theme is not just about a few minutes of dialogue, but the commitments have to be seen visually. Most of us will only look at what's up and ignore what's down. She pointed out to the audience to whom she is referring to (the deprived and marginalized communities). This is a professionally oriented course, and by profession we don't mean commercial, it is not even about the knowledge gained, but the ideology one carries. What ideology does one have for India, or towards the constitution, and the value of secularism plays a vital role. This ideology

can transform into action only with the appropriate skills to reach out to people. It should aim at benefitting the working class, both organised and unorganised, women, marginalized and those below the poverty line.



"Lots of people lose their livelihood in the name of developmental projects. This is usually followed by endless Battles.... Battles.... Battles.... Creating war in the country. Social Workers must have appropriate skills, not just in organising conferences, but also in organising people on field, standing in the forefront to represent the demands of the oppressed." In her opinion, a Rights Based Approach, will help one to understand what is social development and what is not. She said that social workers must be capable of organizing the task with an ideology combined with skills and ethics. Once this is done, the whole process will make a person feel empowered. In the process, the social workers not just help the disabled, farmers and others, but also themselves.



Amrit mausam: appka mausam aap manayege panch saal ke badh, par appne abhi shurath ki hai uss dishame janeki, yeh bhi ek bohut badi baath hai, aur panch saal kuch kam nahi hai, bahut lambi safar aapne ye sambav hai jo aapko manzil tak zaroor puhanchaigi ye meri vishwas hai (MSSW will celebrate its nectar in five years from now, as you have started your journey and five years is not a limited duration, however, my belief is that this journey will lead you to the destination.)

Ms. Medha Padkar, reiterated that, talking about equity has become a far-reaching goal today. We can realise the state of the economy today by looking into the Oxfam report. She shared her concerns about the central and state government policies regarding food security.

She further said that in Mumbai, 60 percent of the population lives in slums and that they are neither unhealthy nor unhygienic but are actually the real time contributors to the economic growth of the country. "In fact, they are the actual symbol of development. During floods, people living on the banks of Adyar river in Tamil Nadu, faced evictions. It is not the corporates who suffer, but the deprived who face every single crisis. Most importantly, 80 per cent of the population in mega cities and metropolises hardly get 20 percent of the water. We can see women from the slum dwelling holding colourful pitchers and standing in rows to fetch water. Due to this, they miss out on their productive work (earning), which could otherwise provide them an income."



The speaker said that it is not only about providing food and water, but also about making them earn for their livelihood. Despite these challenges, the whole pattern of land use disturbs us. We can witness the Himalayas coming down due to this issue. She spoke on the importance of protecting our natural resources. She shared her experience of visiting Joshimath during the landslides. She mentioned that places like Joshimath has beautiful resources and that they ought to be protected. She expressed her grievance while seeing advertisements that promise to take people to the grand Himalayas without any care for the people and environment.

She reiterated that land is the indispensable capital, but is only held by a few big players. "One can have so many dollars, yen or rupees, but money alone cannot bring happiness. The true meaning of life can only be understood when a tiny microscopic virus enters. This is when oxygen becomes indispensable for many. Be it Baksva, Madhya Pradesh or Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, most of the communities are completely dependent on natural resources, but are denied rights. To work on equity means, to do analysis, fact finding about the resources available including financial and monetary resources."



She emphasized that privatization should not invade sectors that meet the basic needs of people such as education, food, health, etc. The speaker reflected on the struggles, famers, landless labourers, cattle grazers, fish workers, Adivasi and the communities that live depending on the natural resources, go through due to industrialization. Though she recorded that she wasn't against industrialization, she recalled few incidents in India that had a negative impact on the marginalized. She continued to share her concerns about the water used by farmers for produce. She suggested that we should help farmers in devising alternative farming techniques that do not pollute the environment. She stated how the Jaivik Kheti does not give organic branding certification for the produce given by farmers since the water used for production was said to be polluted.



She also spoke about the lifestyle wanted by today's generation. In her words, "Bacha bolta hai papa/dada kya karna hai iss zamin se kuch nahi nikalta hai mein boleno toh kardh loon, mein ek motorcycle toh kardh loon, apne ghar toh banale" (child says to his father we receive anything from this land let's sell this at least I can buy a car or motorcycle or we can contrast our house).

s.Medha Patkar stated that, there is a need for reviewing the existing developmental



paradigms stating "free education to children under the age of 14 years is mandatory in the nation but is unfortunately not followed everywhere in the country" as an example. In her words, *"There are ways and means. But the best is to reform"*. She also stated that unemployment rates are increasing in the nation and there is a strong need repeal the 29 labour laws existing in the nation.

She stated that Article 243 and 244 of the Indian Constitution are significant articles but in the nation, development as a participatory process is lacking. She quoted the words of Jawaharlal Nehru (during his speech while inaugurating the Bhakra Nangal project in 1954) on "disease of gigantism" and how the markets are affected by it. She recommended the audience to read 'Hind Swaraj' by M K Gandhi. She acknowledged the importance of community's first rights to technologies built around them. She also mentioned how casteism is taking a toll on injustice by citing incidents happening around the nation such as the faeces found in the water tank of Adi Dravidar village in Pudukkottai.



If you have the heart to help the people, help those who are rich in natural resources (the depressed). Their houses are getting evicted in the banks of Adyar, when buildings are raised nearby. Understand who is the cause and who gains, explained the speaker. How can be deprived be united when casteism and communalism are taking toll on unity. The faeces have been dropped into the water tank used by Adivasis in Vengaivayal, Pudukottai, Tamil Nadu. Such atrocities among the Dalits continue to haunt the state. One of the dalit children was beaten to death for drinking water from a pot. These are divisive forces which obstruct the unity among the depressed. If we stand for equity, we must take the battle with courage, without divide and rule policy. Secularism and socialism is not just a political ideology, but are values that we are supposed to owe. Always take up non-violent weapons because that is the force that I look forward to, expressed Ms. Medha Patkar.

"Sarva, dharma samadhav in the society we want dharma niram ekshatha as secularism in electoral politics' ' she stated.

Ladenge!!!! Jeetenge!!!! Ms. Medha Patkar said with pride. The crowd repeated the same and said "Ladenge!!!! Jeetenge!!!! (We will fight and we will win)



Kaun Banayenge Hindustan, Bharath ka mazdoor kisan, yeh slogan nahi hai yeh ek understanding hai, iss par humara ek commitment hai (who will make India better? It is the farmers of the country! This is not just a slogan but the understanding and



commitment we have to take forward).

She concluded by highlighting that it is truth, non-violence, equity and justice that should win. The session was indeed vibrant and loaded the audience with the vigour to battle for the oppressed. Ms. Medha Patkar, was powerful in delivering her thoughts and motivated the young minds to devise alternatives and stand in forefront of those who cannot fight for themselves. The audience paid respect to her words, by applauding her. It was an insightful, thought-provoking and inspirational talk. The session ended at 11.39 am.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

At 11.39 am, the question-and-answer session began. In which 5 questions were asked by 4 participants to the chief guest of the inaugural.

Question 1: Chennai Central is to become India's first silent railway station. Rail announcements will be stopped soon; this will directly affect those who are visually impaired. What do you think and suggest on this initiative?



Answer: It is carelessness and callousness. It is indeed very difficult for the visually impaired and we can't be silent about it.



Question 2: We as students did our final year research on mental health of women in slums. We witnessed that women in slums have low self-esteem and are mentally disturbed. Is there any way you can take it forward? And what do you think can be the plan of action?

Answer: Being humane...mental health is dependent on whether you are peaceful in your life. It is associated with satisfaction, accessibility to basic needs and the pleasing environment one lives in. To care about their mental health is to adopt a social approach, not only to individuals but also to the groups.

Groups like 'Alcoholic Anonymous' helps improve social support of those who are mentally unhealthy. It is particularly those who are more vulnerable to such problems. We have to take an equitable approach and empower men to understand the problems faced by women. According to the chief guest, "women can take up many issues. It is the crisis and adversities that will bring in opportunities. In extreme situations where one could not tolerate mental health problems, they have to be taken for treatment."



Question 3: How should we ensure safety (physically, mentally and socially) when we work on the field?



Answer: When you are non-violent, you are free. One must stand up and fight for their safety. Basic transformation in society can be brought only through struggle-based and right-based approach. Therefore, we should not hesitate towards raising our concerns regarding the injustice happening in the society.

Question 4: In the upcoming five years, many things will change, especially the government and elections. As a student how can we equip ourselves?Answer: I am not there in electoral politics nor do I want to be a part of it, I tried, but couldn't sustain for three months. It has a different style and approach. In these five years I want you all to fight in eradicating the injustice happening in the society.

Question 5: When we have such responsibilities to look after the family members, how do you think that we can take up activism?



Answer: There would be lots of pressure from family to take up normal jobs, which can fetch a good sum, but I salute youths who start their career as social activists, advocates or media persons. They all work directly to restore the rights of the deprived. It is unsure whether activism will earn them a profit, but it will definitely give satisfaction when producing good results. Some 50-60 students used to approach us for internships from the states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu before COVID-19 lockdown. They learn how potters, farmers and deprived communities fought to meet their demands. But an internship for a duration of one month would not be sufficient for one to learn the entire process of activism. It requires a year to imbibe the practice. Students should spend a year in people's movement.

Do not expect any monetary gains except to work selflessly and understand what a movement really looks like. I heard from your alumni that MSSW holds 800 students, I was amazed by the numbers, because if 800 minds join hands with us, we can change the community. Always look into what's down and not what's up. Work with a cause!!!Work with vigil!!!Work with an ideology!!!



Question 6: In factorising Social Activism, how can we motivate the Social Work fraternity to involve in Social Activism?

Answer: In the 1970s, many young students went to the Adivasi community fighting for various causes, but now that has been turned down. Most of the people prefer to work in abroad than in our states/ country. When we are looking for people to work as a media person, documentation or conducting research, we were asked to make an international appeal. It is better to prepare and motivate youth, but it is becoming difficult since all forces are working on youths. Prepare small cadres who will build others. Rise above personal gains. The college alumni association can organize workshops, lectures as well as take students to a rural or slum community during summer vacation to understand the dynamics of people's movement.

MEMENTO:



After the question-and-answer session, Mr. K A Mathew, IAS Retd., (Chairman) presented a memento to the chief guest for honouring the institution with her presence.

PORTRAIT:



Mr. Sundar S, a student of MSW Shift-I took efforts to draw a portrait of Ms. Medha Patkar and presented the portrait to her with pleasure.

CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT



The Student Development Council (SDC) of Madras School of Social Work initiated a fundraising program on the occasion of the 'International Conference on Social Work Education, Social Equity, and Social Development'. The objective of this fundraiser was to support tribal education programs run by Ms. Medha Patkar's National Alliance for People's Movement. An amount of Rs. 32,000 was given to the chief guest as a cheque by the President of the SDC and the student convenors of the student forums. Ms. Medha Patkar thanked the students for their invaluable contribution.



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VOTE OF THANKS

Dr. J. Damen Queen, PhD, Assistant Professor, Programme Head (Shift-II), Department of Social Work, delivered the vote of thanks. She said that it was a synergy to have Ms. Medha Patkar at the institute. She thanked her for inspiring the audience and confirmed that they will work on being empathetic as well as restore social justice. She thanked Dr. S. Raja Samuel (Principal), Mr. K.A. Mathew, IAS Retd. (Chairman), Dr. R. Subashini (Dean), Dr. K. Sathyamurthi (Convenor & Head of the Department of Social Work), participants, scholars, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, sponsors, and media for their support. She wished that the same energy



be continued for the two days of the conference.

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NARMADA BACHAO ANDOLAN – SAREES BY Ms. MEDHA PATKAR

During the inaugural, there was a stall exclusively for the sale of handmade sarees brought by our chief guest, Ms. Medha Patkar. The sarees were handprint cotton sarees weaved by tribal women the in and around the Narmada River. These handloom sarees



were in varied colours like white, yellow, red, blue and green.

There were 20 sarees each costing Rs. 900, the sarees were purchased by the students, participants, and teachers. Rs.18,000 was collected and donated for the welfare of the tribal women had been undergoing financial crisis for the past 21 months.









PLENERY SESSION - I

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF SESSION
12.36 PM	The Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Sangeetha welcomed the chief guests Prof. Shantha Balaswamy and Prof. Pamela Singla
12.37 PM	The profile of Prof. Shantha Balaswamy was read by Ms. Estha Emily Thomas (MSW Shift-II)
12.43 PM	The resource person started her presentation after sharing her screen
12.51 PM	The resource person shared her teaching experience
12.53 PM	The resource person briefed about evidence-based practices
12.58 PM	The resource person shared the strengths and weaknesses of evidence- based practices
13.05 PM	The resource person discussed how educational institutions can integrate evidence-based practices in the research methods course
13.11 PM	The resource person shared about the role played by faculty in integrating evidence-based practices into the research methods course
13.18 PM	The resource person highlighted the ways in which practitioners and social service agencies can be engaged
13.23 PM	The resource person concluded by presenting the areas where evidenced-based practices are implemented in India
13.30 PM	The session came to an end.
13.31 PM	The Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Indira Priyadharshini thanked the resource person, by highlighting the key points shared by her
13.33 PM	The profile of Prof. Pamela Singla was read by Ms. Srinidhi (BSW)
13.34 PM	The resource person addressed the gathering
14.04 PM	The resource person ended her session
14.05 PM	The Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Indira Priyadharshini gave a vote of thanks to the speaker
14.06 PM	Dr. Janaki, the meeting coordinator, felicitated the resource person with a memento
14.07 PM	Question and Answer Session
14.08 PM	Overall vote of thanks was given by the Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Sangeetha (MSW Shift-II)
14.10 PM	The session came to a formal conclusion

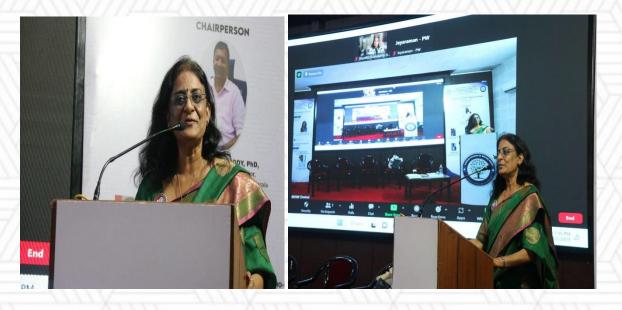
SPEAKER'S PROFILE Prof. SHANTHA BALASWAMY, PhD



Prof. Shantha Balaswamy is currently an Associate Professor at the Ohio State University in Columbus. Her academic journey began with a B.Sc. in Biology-Chemistry and a Master's in Social Work in Community Practice at the University of Madras in Chennai, India. She later pursued a Ph.D. in Social Welfare at Case Western Reserve University, where she also completed a postdoctoral fellowship funded by the National Institute on Aging.

Her areas of expertise include the well-being of women and older adults who are victims of violence or mistreatment, as well as the improvement of community-based services for mistreated victims. Through her practice, scholarship, and service, she has made significant contributions to the field and has presented her work in various national and international forums. Prof. Balaswamy is an active member of several local, state, and national boards dealing with elder mistreatment and domestic violence. Her dedication to improving the lives of vulnerable populations has made her a respected figure in the field of social work.

Prof. PAMELA SINGLA, PhD



Prof. Pamela Singla is an accomplished academic and researcher who is currently a Professor and Head of the Department of Social Work at the esteemed University of Delhi. Her educational background includes a bachelor's in economics degree from Shri Ram College of Commerce and M.A., M.Phil. and PhD degrees from the Department of Social Work the University of Delhi, where she later returned to teach.With over 30 years of experience in teaching, Prof. Singla has made significant contributions to the fields of Social Work Education, Gender Studies, and Social Policy. Her approach to teaching involves incorporating the voices of marginalized communities into her classroom through empirical research. She has conducted extensive research on various issues concerning women, including their participation in Panchayati Raj, job satisfaction in the corporate world, safety in university campuses, and the impact of natural disasters. She has also worked on sensitive issues such as human trafficking, manual scavenging, and welfare schemes.

Prof. Singla's expertise in gender sensitization extends to diverse groups, including the police in Kashmir, for whom she has conducted training on soft skills. She is associated with the Government of India in various capacities, including serving as a member of the Expert Panel and Task Force for Women's Safety in Delhi, a member of the Programme Advisory Committee of KIRAN Programme, and a member of the NOC for International Adoption for the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA). Her achievements in the field of social work have been recognized through her recent election as a member of the Board of Directors of the International Association of Schools of Social Work.

REPORT

SESSION - I

Topic Discussed: Evidence-based practice in social work practice

Speaker: Prof. Shantha Balaswamy, PhD, Ohio State University, USA



The session began with a warm welcome from the Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Sangeetha who welcomed the resource person for the session, Prof. Shantha Balaswamy, who joined the session virtually (via Zoom Meeting) and the participants gathered in the TAG auditorium at Madras School of Social Work. Ms. Estha Emily Thomas introduced the resource person to the gathering by sharing her academic qualifications and contributions. Prof. Shantha Balaswamy, welcomed the participants and started her presentation by sharing her teaching experience. She has 27 years of teaching experience at Ohio State University where she has been teaching research courses at the bachelor's, master's and PhD level. She mentioned that one of her favourite courses to teach, which she herself developed called 'engaging with evidence', teaches students how they can do evidence-based practice, its methodology and application. She noted how she did not find it hard to decide on what to speak for the session. "As the Madras School of Social Work celebrates its platinum jubilee," she continued, "I felt it was very appropriate to raise the question of where we as social workers should be heading in our profession to be more responsive to our clients and the community we serve?" She displayed her passion in applying evidence-based practice in social work by presenting her ideas for the same in the session.

Evidence Based Practice:



The speaker started the presentation with the intention to inform the participants on how to move forward in embracing evidence-based practice. Evidence-based practice (EBP) in social science as described by the speaker is *"the use of research findings and the best available evidence to inform decision-making and the provision of services in social work, psychology, counselling, and other related fields. It involves using systematic methods to gather and evaluate relevant research evidence to guide practice."* She clarified that the terms evidence-based practice, evidence-based treatment, evidence-based interventions and evidence-informed practice are often used interchangeably and that they mean the same.

The speaker said that "EBP is a process in which the practitioner combines well-researched interventions with clinical experience, ethics, client preferences, and culture to guide and inform the delivery of treatments and services." The steps to do EBP as mentioned by the speaker are: posing answerable questions; searching for credible research studies; critically appraising the quality of research; selecting the best intervention(s); applying to a specific case or situation; evaluating outcomes. She also highlighted that EBP can be applied to micro, macro and meso levels of social work practice. The speaker presented the 'EBP Research Methods' in an order portraying the quality of information, from meta-analysis on the top followed by systematic review, randomized-controlled trials, cohort studies, case control studies, case series/case reports, background information/expert opinion. Improved outcomes, accountability, consistency, ongoing learning and costeffectiveness were listed by the speaker as the strengths of EBP and also the reasons for which social workers should be interested in EBP. She opined, "Given that human resource organisations are constantly underfunded, there is a need for EBP...The practitioners must understand what is adoptable and adaptable for the clients..." Some of the weaknesses of EBP pointed out were limited availability of research evidence, client differences, challenges in implementation and ethical concerns. She said, "EBP may be at odds with social work values and ethics, such as the importance of client selfdetermination and cultural competence... As practitioners we must accept those limitations especially when we don't have interventions."

Strategies for Implementing EBP in Social Work Practice:

The speaker then shared some strategies and tips for implementing EBP in social work practice with special attention to the role of educational institutions & role of faculty in engaging social work students to practice EBP and ways to engage practitioners to practice EBP. For educational institutions, she insisted that EBP must be incorporated in the social work curricula with emphasis on research methods, critical thinking and evidence-based interventions. She explained how conducting seminars, workshops and conferences on EBP in social work practice will help social workers stay updated about the research and interventions and ability to provide evidence-based services to their clients. She also said that social work institutions ought to provide access to research databases, engage them in mentorship and supervision, create online learning resources, incorporate experiential learning and encourage collaboration & interdisciplinary learning, since all this will help social work students develop their skills and knowledge required to implement EBP.

The speaker suggested that the faculty in social work institutions can integrate EBP in the research methods course offered to social work students by teaching the basic principles of EBP, using current research & case examples to illustrate how EBP can be applied in real-world situations, assigning research projects that will require them to use EBP methods to answer the research questions and providing research resources to help them individually research about EBP. She stated *"Reflection*"

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is another key component of learning." Hence, she opined that faculty can encourage students to think, provide them with opportunities for reflection, emphasize the importance of staying current in research evidence and create opportunities for students to engage with practitioners and other professionals in the field.

"...We all know that providers of services in the community are key to the social work profession, they are our training brands as well as where we engage with clients. Therefore, I wanted to make an attempt to provide some ideas on how and where and what we can do to move the application of EBP forward. Here are some ideas. I am full of ideas I think..." On this note, the speakers shared some ways to engage practitioners and social service agencies in EBP. She said that communicating the positive outcomes and advantages of evidence-based interventions using tools like storytelling will more likely want them to engage in EBP.

Providing practitioners with the necessary training and resources, engaging them in the research process by collaborating with them and encouraging them to provide feedback and input on the implementation of EBP interventions projects will help them understand the importance of EBP and their role in the implementation of the same. She pointed out that interventions should be tailored to fit practitioner/community needs by saying, *"We can't just sell an idea without making sure that it fits the person or fits the community work that they are doing."* She also said that providing incentives like financial incentives or recognition and awards will motivate practitioners to implement EBP.

Applicability and Practice of Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) in India:

The last part of the session focused on the areas where EBP is applicable and has been practiced in India. To address individual and community mental health problems, the speaker pointed out that evidence-based interventions like cognitive-behavioural therapy and World Health Organization's Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) have been used in India. Also, she reported that evidence-based interventions for social problems like child marriage, gender-based violence, HIV/AIDS, etc., have been addressed at the community level by using community mobilization and behaviour change communication programs. At the macro level, the speaker said that EBP has been used to build the capacity of social work organizations and practitioners in India.

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EBP for ensuring healthcare for the elderly, providing substance abuse treatment, improving community preparedness & resilience as a part of disaster management and improving the quality of healthcare delivery were all informed by the speaker as areas where EBP was implemented in India. She stated, *"As more research is being conducted and disseminated in India, it is likely that evidence-based practice will become more widespread in the field, for which I am thankful and excited."*

Conclusion:

The participants gained valuable insights into Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) in social work. The speaker hoped that the session would stimulate more conversations on EBP within the social work fraternity and provide participants with a wealth of information to help them deliver effective interventions in their communities. The session concluded with a vote of thanks from the Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Indira Priyadharshini.

SESSION -II

Topic Discussed: Importance of appropriate methodology and ethical research practice

Speaker: Prof. Pamela Singla, Delhi School of Social Work, India.



Prof. Pamela Singla spoke on the importance of ethical research practices and appropriate methodology for social workers.

- **Confidentiality and Consent:** She stressed the need to maintain confidentiality and avoid coercion and exploitation when collecting data. It is crucial to treat people as co-partners and take informed consent before conducting any research.
- Mixed Method Approach: Prof. Singla emphasized the need to use a mixed method approach to understand people's perspectives and experiences, as quantitative data alone tends to ignore narratives.
- **Gender Analysis Framework:** It is essential to give due importance to both men and women as social workers by looking through sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis framework. This approach helps in identifying the unique challenges faced by both genders.
- **Managing Emotional Involvement:** She advised social workers to manage their emotional involvement as researchers. Emotional attachment can lead to biased results, and it is crucial to maintain objectivity during research.

- Local Dialect Communication: To obtain valuable data, it is necessary to take up research areas where the researcher can understand the language. Relying on translators can lead to a loss of essential data. Communication should be strong and effective, to avoid misinterpretation of data.
- **Operationalization of Definitions:** Prof. Singla highlighted the importance of operationalizing definitions carefully. The researcher must be precise in defining terms to avoid ambiguity in data collection and analysis.

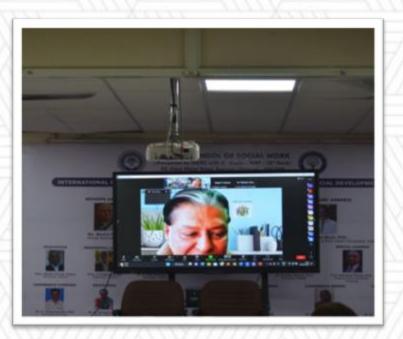
Prof. Pamela Singla's session emphasized the importance of ethical research practices and appropriate methodology for social workers. The sub-themes highlighted were maintaining confidentiality and consent, using mixed-method approach, gender analysis framework, managing emotional involvement, understanding the local dialect, strong communication, and careful operationalization of definitions are essential for effective research.

PLENERY SESSION - II

13.15 PM	Question and answer session
13.21 PM	End of Prof. Selwyn Stanley's session
13.22 PM	The profile for the speaker, Dr. Shahin Sultana was read by Ms. Raheal (MSW Shift-II)
13.23 PM	The speaker started the session with a brief introduction on "disasters and its impact on psychological well-being of children, adolescents, and youth"
13.42 PM	The speaker ended her session with the comment on "psychological impacts on disaster management and the needs of psychiatric social workers in the future"
13.43 PM	Question and answer session
13.49 PM	The principal, Dr. S. Raja Samuel felicitated Dr. Shahin Sultana with a memento
13.50 PM	The vote of thanks was delivered by the Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Harini
TIME	DESCRIPTION OF SESSION
12.40 PM	The speaker, Dr. Shahin Sultana arrived at the venue
12.44 PM	Prof. Selwyn Stanley joined the gathering via virtual mode
12.44 PM	Welcome address was given by the Masters of Ceremonies, Ms. Harini andMs. Tarunya
12.45 PM	The profile of the first speaker, Prof. Selwyn Stanley was read by Ms. Pavithra. K (MSW Shift-I)
12.47 PM	 Prof. Selwyn Stanley began his address by greeting the esteemed Principal, Head of the Department and other organizers present. He expressed gratitude for the opportunity to speak and proceeded to introduce his topic

SPEAKER'S PROFILE

Prof. SELWYN STANLEY, PhD

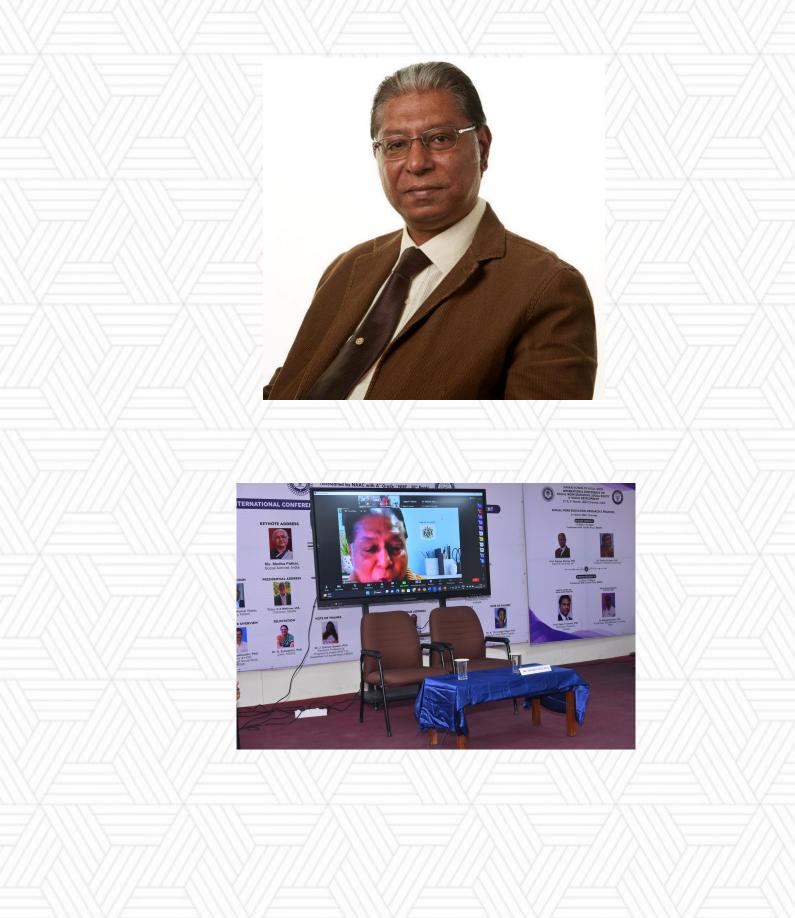


Prof. Stanley is a highly accomplished social work educator and researcher with more than three decades of experience in teaching social work courses. He obtained his social work degree from the Madras School of Social Work and subsequently started his teaching career as a lecturer in social work at Bishop Heber College in Trichy, India. Over the years, he has taught a wide range of subjects, including human growth and personality development, contemporary social problems, mental health, substance misuse, methods of social work and research methodology, and values and ethics in social work practice.

Prof. Stanley's research interests are focused on various aspects of mental health, substance misuse, caregiving, suicide, and HIV. He has published several research articles, which have been featured in reputable journals. His work on alcohol misuse, in particular, has explored its impact on family dynamics such as adjustment, conflict, and communication, as they affect the spouse and children.

In addition to his research work, Prof. Stanley has also taken a keen interest in the academic experience of social work students, as they progress through their career, and career-related issues facing social work practitioners. He has strong research collaborations with partners in India and has recently established contact with the

European Research Institute for Social Work (ERIS), based in Ostrava.



Prof. Stanley has been associated with prestigious universities, both in India and the UK. He was a lecturer at Plymouth University before joining Edge Hill University in 2019. Prof. Stanley has also demonstrated his expertise in the use of SPSS, which is an essential tool for analyzing data in social sciences.

In his recent study, Prof. Stanley collaborated with the Thanjavur Medical College to examine primary caregivers of persons with schizophrenia covering aspects like burden, resilience, coping and quality of life. Prof. Stanley's contributions to the field of social work has been invaluable, and he continues to inspire and mentor students and researchers in this area.



Audience during the session

Dr. SHAHIN SULTANA, PhD



Dr. A. Shahin Sultana is a distinguished academician with over 15 years of experience in teaching, research, field work, research guidance, and administration. She has specialized expertise in medical and psychiatric social work and is renowned for her excellent pedagogical skills in areas such as psychology for social work practice, social policy and social welfare administration, medical social work, and public health for social workers. Proficient in creating an inclusive and collaborative classroom environment through team teaching and interactive learning, she has also contributed significantly to training, research, and collaborative initiatives with national and international institutions, governmental, and non-governmental organizations.

Dr. Sultana has also authored and co-authored several publications in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters, with her research interests centered in the fields of mental health, substance abuse, and social policy. She is a dedicated educator and mentor, having supervised numerous students in their research projects and dissertations, and is committed to fostering a culture of learning and critical thinking among her students.

Dr. Sultana is also actively involved in community outreach programs, volunteering her time and expertise to various initiatives aimed at improving the well-being of vulnerable populations. She is a respected member of the academic community, having served in various capacities such as the Chairperson of the Department of Social Work and as a member of the Board of Studies for Social Work at several universities.

REPORT

SESSION - I

Topic Discussed: The importance of social work research ethics, the relationship with policy and administration, and importance of qualitative research.

Speaker: Prof. Selwyn Stanley, PhD, Edge Hill University, UK



The speaker began the session by providing an overview of research as a method of social work and its scope. He began his address by extending greetings to the Principal and the Head of the Department. The speaker then proceeded to introduce his topic, which centered on social work research, its scope, and the impact it has as an evidence-based practice.

Research:

Social work research is an important method that offers valuable insights into the lives of individuals and communities. By using research as a tool, social workers can evaluate the effectiveness of their interventions, as well as the impact of policies on the lives of people. Through this process, they can gain a better understanding of their clients and communities, and use evidence-based practices to guide their interventions. The speaker emphasized the significance of social work research as a means of ensuring that interventions are informed by empirical evidence, which ultimately leads to better outcomes for individuals and communities.

Research in the context of the United Kingdom:

In the United Kingdom, individuals who receive social work services are referred to as service users, and this term is derived from the medical field. This approach emphasizes the importance of individuals receiving services as active participants in their own care, rather than passive recipients of aid. This approach also highlights the need for social workers to view their clients holistically, considering not just their immediate needs but also their overall wellbeing and long-term goals. By using the term service users, social workers in the UK are able to provide person-centered care that is tailored to the individual's unique circumstances and needs.

Evidence-Based Practice:

Evidence-based practice is a systematic approach that integrates scientific research with the practitioner's clinical experience, ethical principles, client preferences, and cultural considerations to inform and guide the delivery of treatments and services. This process requires critical thinking and evaluation of information to determine the most effective and efficient intervention for the client or community. By incorporating evidence-based practice, social workers can enhance the quality of their services, improve outcomes for their clients, and promote social justice.

Characteristics of Research:

- Interdisciplinary
- Ethical awareness
- Reflexive consideration of the place of the researcher in the research.
- Sensitivity to the political and social context.

Ethical Principle of the Social Work Research:

- Research should be designed, reviewed and undertaken to ensure integrity, quality and transparency.
- Research staff and participants must normally be informed fully about the purpose, methods and intended possible uses of the research, what their participation in the research entails, and what risks are involved.
- The confidentiality of the information supplied by participants and the anonymity of the respondents must be respected

- Participants must take part voluntarily free from any coercion
- Harm to participants must be avoided in all instances
- The independence of the research must be clear and conflicts of interest or partiality must be explicit

Practitioner Research:

In the agency or organizational context, a research culture may not be prevalent, and practitioner researchers have a better understanding of the problems at the field level. Research should not solely serve an academic purpose but should also be implemented in practice. Practitioner researchers possess valuable knowledge that can inform evidence-based practice and should be empowered to contribute to the research process. Practitioner research involves conducting research in the context of practice to improve interventions and inform policies. By involving practitioners in the research process, a more collaborative and informed approach to research can be achieved, which can lead to better outcomes for clients and the community. It is essential to recognize the value of practitioner research and provide support and resources for practitioners to engage in research activities.

Major Problems Faced During a Research:

- Students do only secondary-level research
- Students are not trained properly in identifying the scientific methods of getting literature
- In Indian context there is repetition of topics
- There is no proper sampling procedure being used
- Repeated ethical issues

Suggestions by the Speaker:

- The speaker suggested providing copies of the research to the agency or organization and the research participants to enhance the effectiveness of the research.
- The speaker advised researchers to used mixed methods.

- The speaker recommended identifying research areas despite funding issues and finding ways to secure minimal funding.
- The speaker proposed initiating journal clubs as a means of promoting research culture.
- The speaker encouraged collaboration with students in research endeavours.

Q & A Session:

During the question-and-answer session, the students actively participated and posed a series of questions. One student enquired about the reason behind the widespread use of SPSS, as compared to other statistical software like Statista, given that pirated versions of SPSS are easily accessible. Another question centered around ways to promote qualitative research, with a suggestion to refer to the British Journal of Social Work and utilize mixed methods, along with small groups conducting fieldwork in placements. Finally, a student asked whether it would be feasible to research the effectiveness of anti-depressants in treating depression, to which the speaker explained that social work research focuses on psychosocial issues and does not delve into clinical settings.

SESSION - II:

Topic Discussed: Advocating for children and adolescents on disasters and their impact on psychological well-being.

Speaker: Dr. Shahin Sultana, PhD, Pondicherry University, India



The speaker presented a talk on children's mental health in the context of disaster management. The session was attended by various professionals and students interested in the field of social work.

The Need for Disaster Management in Children's Mental Health:

The speaker highlighted the need for disaster management in children's mental health. The impact of human trafficking and physical violence on children's mental health was emphasized, and the need to take them out of such situations was stressed. The speaker mentioned that teachers and therapists needed to understand the mindset of the children and address their issues.

Insight on Children's Mental Health:

The speaker provided insight into the need for mental health professionals in disaster management. The speaker shared an example of the mental well-being of a child who was showing uneasiness after witnessing a disaster situation but was able to express his/her emotions through art.

Immediate Management of Disasters:

The speaker stressed the importance of immediate management of disasters and highlighted the impact of disasters on children's psychological well-being. The speaker shared that psychological experts should be brought in to address the issues happening due to disasters.



Examples of Disaster and Injustice to Children:

The speaker referred to various examples of disasters, including the recent one in India, and expressed concern about the injustice being done to children. The speaker mentioned the incident of a new born baby in Syria who was connected to the mother's umbilical cord and later rescued from the rubble. The speaker also highlighted the need to provide information about mental health needs in the context of disaster management.

Conclusion:

The speaker emphasized the critical issues faced by children and adolescents, stressing the importance of evidence-based practice at the local and global levels. Specifically, the need for mental health professionals in disaster management was highlighted, given the significant risk to children's psychological well-being. Additionally, the speaker drew attention to the need to address problems such as human trafficking and physical violence, which have a profound impact on children's lives. She underscored the importance of teachers and therapists in understanding children's mindsets and addressing their problems. The session concluded with a poignant reminder of the negative effect of any disaster on a child's state of mind and the need for mental health experts to intervene in such situations. The speaker also highlighted the injustice being done to children affected by disasters, emphasizing the urgent need for action. The session provided an opportunity for professionals and students to gain insights into the field of social work and children's mental health.

PLENERY SESSION - III

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF SESSION
14.10 PM	The Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Indira Priyadharshini welcomed the speaker, Prof. Rajeswari Natrajan Tyagi
14:12 PM	Ms. Nanthitha R (BSW) read the profile Prof. Rajeswari Natrajan Tyagi
14:13 PM	Prof. Rajeswari Natrajan Tyagi started the session on "Use of self and self-work in the practice of social work"
14.32 PM	The session concluded and Ms. Nandita expressed gratitude to the speaker, Prof. Rajeswari Natrajan Tyagi for delivering an enlightening talk
14.32 PM	The speaker Thiru. Henri Tiphagne, HRDA, India was welcomed by Ms. Indira Priyadharshini
14.33 PM	Ms. Nandita (MSW Shift-II) read the profile of the speaker
14.34 PM	Thiru. Henri Tiphagne, HRDA, India gave a talk on "Knowledge and skills in human rights essential for social work."
14.50 PM	The session concluded and the Master of Ceremonies, Ms.Sangeetha expressed gratitude to the speaker for the insightfullecture

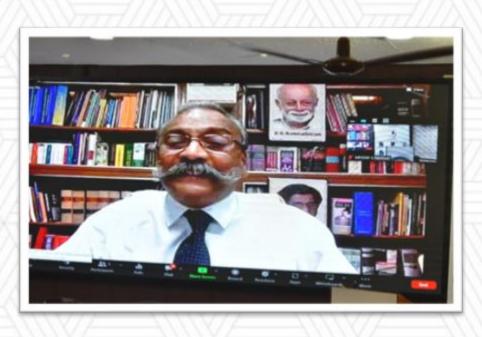
SPEAKER'S PROFILE

Prof. RAJESWARI NATRAJAN TYAGI, PhD

Prof. Rajeswari Natrajan Tyagi, is an Associate Professor and Site Director at Alliant International University. She holds a Master's and a Ph.D. in Marriage and Family Therapy and has over 15 years of experience in practicing them. She is an alumna of Madras School of Social Work and Purdue University and has received the Maria Philip award for Best All-Round Performance at MSSW and the "Excellence in Doctoral Studies" award from Purdue University.

Prof. Tyagi is an accomplished author and has published numerous articles on the growth and necessity of marriage and family therapy in India. She is well-versed in various areas of family and child welfare, as well as human rights and social justice. Her expertise in these fields has led to her being invited to speak at various national and international conferences. In addition to her academic and research achievements, Prof. Tyagi is an active member of various professional organizations and has served on several committees related to family therapy and social work education. She is highly respected in her field and is known for her dedication and passion for improving the lives of individuals, families, and communities.

Thiru. HENRI TIPHAGNE



Thiru. Henri Tiphagne is an accomplished advocate with a wealth of experience in criminal law and presently serves as the Executive Director of People's Watch, a highly-regarded National Human Rights Organization. He is a distinguished member of the Executive Committee of the International Organization against Torture (OMCT) and has been a key member of the Institute of Human Rights Education. Tiphagne has previously served as a member of the National Core Group of NGOs of the National Human Rights Commission of India and the State Representative for Tamil Nadu for the Right to Education Act of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

He is credited with initiating and building the Citizens for Human Rights Movement in Tamil Nadu, which comprises over 1,500 units of small amnesty type cells functioning at the Taluk, District, and State levels for the protection and advancement of human rights.

REPORT

SESSION - I

Topic Discussed: Use of Self and Self-Work in the Practice of Social Work

Speaker: Prof. Rajeswari Natrajan Tyagi, PhD, Alliant Intl University, USA Prof. Rajeswari Natrajan Tyagi, PhD, emphasized the importance of self-work in social work practice. She emphasized that social workers must be authentic and conscious of their own epistemology, as well as understand their clients' subjectivity to foster empathy. The following report provides an overview of her key insights on the topic of self-work in social work practice.

Importance of Self-Work:

According to Prof. Tyagi, self-work is essential in family therapy and for training social work students. Social workers must understand themselves before they can effectively help others. Self-work involves developing intuitive discernment and understanding one's own epistemology, which is how one knows what one knows. Social workers must be authentic and understand that their subjectivity is different from their clients'.

Tools for Self-Work:Prof. Tyagi recommended several tools for social workers to engage in self-work. One such tool is the genogram or cultural genogram, which helps social workers understand their clients' values, beliefs, functions, and dysfunctions. Another tool is understanding one's social location, intersectionality, and positioning in context. She said that social workers must identify their demographic identities, accept their privileges and powers, and understand their areas of oppression and powerlessness to help their clients effectively.

Being an Authentic Wounded Healer:

Prof. Tyagi concluded by emphasizing the importance of being an authentic wounded healer. She insisted that social workers must be present and walk along with their clients authentically. To do so, they must understand themselves and their clients. The ultimate goal is to be authentically oneself rather than doing oneself. Social workers must be like a burning lamp, keeping the light inside them alive by finding it and adding fuel.

Conclusion:

Prof. Tyagi concluded by encouraging the participants to be present and walk along with their clients as wounded healers, with a deep understanding of both themselves and their clients. She used the metaphor of a burning lamp to emphasize the importance of finding and fuelling one's own inner light through self-work.

SESSION - II

Topic Discussed: Knowledge and Skills in Human Rights Essential for Social Workers

Speaker: Thiru. Henri Tiphagne, HRDA, India

Thiru. Henri Tiphagne, the speaker, expressed his gratitude and honour to be invited to the institution's Platinum Jubilee for an academic purpose. He congratulated the Principal, Dr. S. Raja Samuel, and the Chairman, Mr. K.A. Mathew, IAS Retd., for successfully leading the institution on a long journey. He also mentioned his pride in his daughter being an alumnus of the college.

The speaker was moved by the institution's decision to invite Ms. Medha Patkar, a social activist, as the keynote speaker for the International Conference. He praised the campus, stating that it spoke for itself that knowledge and skills in human rights are essential for social workers. He also emphasized that engagement in human rights is necessary, regardless of the specialisation. To work with underprivileged members of society on thematic issues, refugees, children, women, etc., one needs to have knowledge and skills in human rights.

Engagement in Human Rights is Essentia

The speaker highlighted that engagement in human rights is crucial, regardless of the specialization in community development or psychiatric social work. He stressed the significance of knowledge and skills in human rights, together with action, which brings a passion for each individual engaged in different fields.

Institutions Working for Human Rights:

The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, defines the right to life, education, liberty, equality, dignity, and personal integrity. The speaker mentioned that there are over sixty institutions in the country that work for human rights in various aspects. However, he feels that no one truly understands the powers of these institutions and their purpose. If the people managing these institutions introduce their purpose, there could be a remarkable change.

Empowering Students in Human Rights:

The speaker emphasized that faculty members must ensure that students are welltrained and empowered in human rights. He stressed that if more social workers and students from these specializations are introduced to the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 and other legislatures engaging in human rights, there will be tremendous growth in the livelihood of the citizens of the nation.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, Thiru. Henri Tiphagne emphasized the importance of human rights knowledge and skills for social workers and professionals working in various fields. He spoke about the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 and the various institutions and commissions established at different levels to protect and promote human rights in the country. He urged faculty members to ensure that students are well trained and empowered in human rights, as it is not just essential but compulsory for anyone working in fields related to social responsibility and human welfare. He concluded by emphasizing the importance of passion that comes from understanding the power of knowledge and skills in human rights and cited the keynote speaker of the conference, Ms. Medha Patkar, as an example of someone who embodies this passion. Overall, his speech provided valuable insights into the importance of human rights education and its role in promoting social justice and equality.

PLENERY SESSION - IV

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION
14.00 PM	The Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Archana welcomed Mr. Baiju.P Vareed
	who joined the session via Zoom meeting
14.02 PM	The session on identity, power and social work practice started
14.05 PM	Ms. Anoushka introduced the speaker Dr. Mangaleswaran
14.06 PM	The session on mixed method research in social work
14.15 PM	Vote of thanks was delivered by the Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Tarunya
14.34 PM	The session came to an end
14.35 PM	Dr. Mangaleswaran was felicitated by Prof. Gavin

SPEAKER'S PROFILE

Prof. BAIJU P. VAREED, PhD



Prof. Baiju P. Vareed is a distinguished social scientist with extensive experience in teaching, research, and community engagement. Prof. Vareed holds a Master's degree in Economics from Madurai Kamaraj University and a PhD from Bharathidasan University. He has also earned a certificate in Community Engagement Studies from the University of Alberta. With a career spanning over 15 years, Prof. Vareed has been a Postgraduate Social Work instructor at Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit. He has conducted several research projects and implemented various community extension programs during his tenure there. He has collaborated with international organizations to work towards social advancements. His expertise and experience make him an esteemed speaker in the field of social work.

Dr. MANGALESWARAN, PhD



Dr. R. Mangaleswaran, M.A, Ph.D, M.Sc (Yoga), Professor and Head of the Department of Social Work at Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, TN, India, is a distinguished academician and expert in the field of advanced social work research and human resource management. With a teaching experience of 21 years, Dr. Mangaleswaran has contributed significantly to the academic and administrative domains. He serves as an Advisory Committee member at the Centre for Distance Education, Bharathidasan University, and has also been a Syndicate Member at the same university. Dr. Mangaleswaran is an Honorary Secretary at NIPM Trichy Chapter and has previously held positions as an Academic Council Member at Bishop Heber College, Trichy, and an Executive Council Member at Pondicherry University.

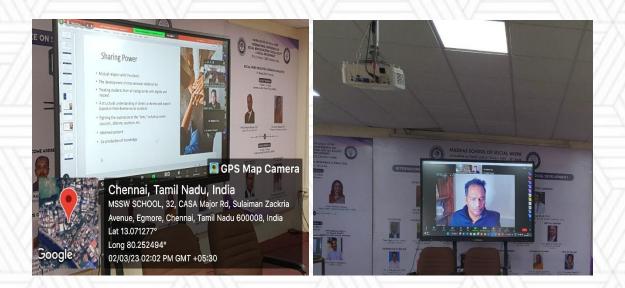
Dr. Mangaleswaran's research interests are in the fields of human resource management and advanced research methodology, and he has published a number of books, including "Social Development in India: New Vistas and Challenges," "Social Development in India: Retrospects and Prospects," and "Working with Youth, Women and Children with HIV/AIDS: Strategic Interventions for Inclusive Development." As a Coordinator for UGC-SAP-DRS-I, Dr. Mangaleswaran has made significant contributions to the development of the social work discipline in India, and his expertise and guidance are highly valued in the academic community.

REPORT

SESSION - I

Topic Discussed: Identity, Power, and Social Work Practice

Speaker: Prof. Baiju P. Vareed, PhD, MacEwan University, Canada



The speaker began the session by explaining the concepts of identity, power, and social work practice. According to the speaker, a person's identity and social position are strongly related to their social location, which defines who they are. The speaker emphasized that social location can lead to categorization and hierarchies that keep some people marginalized and others privileged.

Identity, Power, and Social Work Practice:

The discussion focused on the use of power in social work, which can be derived from legitimate or perceived authority. However, power should be managed through respect, mutual support, solidarity, influence, empowerment, and collaborative decision-making. Social workers need to be aware of power dynamics, biases, and judgments, and how they may affect their relationships with clients.

Mixed Methods Research in Social Work:

The session also explored mixed-method research in social work, which involves combining quantitative and qualitative methods to gain a more comprehensive understanding of social issues. The benefits and challenges of using mixed methods were discussed.

Intersectionality and Bias in Social Work:

The importance of understanding intersectionality and how it can affect social work practice was discussed. Social workers need to be aware of their own biases and judgments, and how they may impact their relationships with clients. They also need to be conscious of their appearance and language and avoid using non-threatening language that can perpetuate stereotypes.

Supporting Marginalized Clients:

The session ended with a discussion on the importance of understanding the diverse social locations of clients and providing support based on their individual needs. Structural understanding of the client's problems is important, and the blaming of victims is not acceptable in the Indian context.

Conclusion:

The speaker concluded by emphasizing the importance of sharing power with clients, and developing interpersonal relationships based on mutual respect. The speaker emphasized the need for a structural understanding of clients' problems and support based on their diverse social locations. The speaker was thanked for his valuable contribution to the session.

SESSION – II

Topic Discussed: Mixed-method research in social work

Speaker: Dr. Mangaleswaran, PhD, Bharathidasan University, Trichy Dr. Mangaleswaran shared his presentation on mixed methods and their importance in social work research.

History of Mixed Methods Research

Dr. Mangaleswaran gave a brief history of the initiation of 'Mixed Methods Research' in the 1800s and cited the research on 'Poverty in Family in Europe' in the year 1855 where mixed methods were used and cited the research work of Frédéric Le Play (1855) named 'European Workers' where mixed methods was used.

Importance of Mixed Methods Research

Dr. Mangaleswaran explained the importance of conducting a mixed method study, which includes a comprehensive understanding of social phenomena, diverse perspectives and insights, validation of findings, flexibility in research design, and bridging the research gap.

Advantages of Mixed Methods Research

Dr. Mangaleswaran spoke about the diversity of using mixed methods and its advantages, including data triangulation, methodological triangulation, investigator triangulation, and increased scope of diverse perspectives.

Effective Question Framing

Dr Mangaleswaran advised researchers to create their own scale and frame the questions effectively. He emphasized how reading about the topic can increase our way of thinking and help in framing better questions.

Types of Mixed Methods Research Design

Dr. Mangaleswaran spoke on meta-analysis and sequential explanatory, exploratory and concurrent triangulation design.

Publication of Mixed Methods Research

Dr. Mangaleswaran highlighted how mixed method increases the scope for publication of the research.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Finally, Dr. Mangaleswaran explained the evaluation process and the challenges a researcher might experience in data analysis.

Conclusion

Dr. Mangaleswaran's session ended with two questions from the audience, and he was felicitated by Mr. Gavin, Assistant Professor.







PANEL DISCUSSION

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF SESSION
14.58 PM	The panel discussion started in the TAG auditorium
15.06 PM	Dr. Sathianathan started his speech on social work and mental health
15.18 PM	PowerPoint presentation on Socio-Behavioural perspective of Health and Social work
15.20 PM	The speaker Dr. Sathianathan concluded his speech.
15.25PM	Introduction of Mr. Karikalan to the gathering
15.20 PM	Statistics on Tuberculosis infection
15.24 PM	News piece on Sanatorium Care
15.26 PM	Social Work in Public Health and Disease Prevention
15.30PM	The speaker concluded the session
15.34 PM	The speaker Ms. Preethi Mathew, began with an introduction about herself and 'Rainbow homes'
15.35 PM	Social worker Role and Approaches
15.39 PM	Chairperson Comments on the discussion
15.52 PM	Participants engaged in a Q&A session with Ms. Preethi Mathew
15.55 PM	Dr. P. Amuthalakshmi of the college felicitated the speaker, M Preethi Mathew with the memento
15.55 PM	Thiru Kenneth Jeyseelan gave a self-introduction about himself and started with the discussion
16.14 PM	Chairperson Joseph Injody applauded the speaker for explaining the plight of the social work profession in the field of HR
16:15 PM	The chairperson summoned the next speaker, Mr. Aswin Kumar David.
16.28 PM	Aswin Kumar concluded the session by highlighting his social infrastructure programs that address the needs of communities
16.30 PM	The speaker Ms. Aspy Joyson began by thanking Dr. Raja Samue Principal, and Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, Head of the Department of Social Work, for giving her the opportunity.
16.35 PM	Case study of a teenage girl who got Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP)
16.37 PM	Case study of a woman who wanted to surrender her child born out of wedlock
16.39 PM	Case study of a family where the father wanted to surrender the

///////////////////////////////////////	child because of his neurological problems
16.41 PM	A case study where a child dropped out of school and had to work to meet family needs
16.42 PM	A case study where a family filed a fake POCSO case on a boy
16.48 PM	The speaker concluded by stressing on the importance of not compromising on the values and principles of social work.
16.49 PM	Question and Answer Session
17.09 PM	The panel discussion came to an end

SPEAKER'S PROFILE

Dr. R. SATHIANATHAN:



Dr. R. Sathianathan is an accomplished and highly respected mental health professional, with a wealth of experience and expertise in the field. He has a distinguished background, having served as the Former Director of the Institute of Mental Health, as well as the Professor and Head of the Madras Medical College.

Currently, Dr. Sathianathan is running the Madras Memory Clinic in Anna Nagar, Chennai. Prior to this, he worked as a Senior Consultant Psychiatrist and headed the Geriatric Care Clinic at Sri Ramachandra Medical University in Porur.

Dr. Sathianathan is the recipient of numerous awards and accolades for his outstanding contributions to the field of mental health. He received a 'lifetime achievement' award from the Indian Medical Association and was also appointed as the Chairperson of the Award Committee and the Geriatric Psychiatric Speciality Section of the Indian Psychiatric Society. He was recognized as the 'best teacher' by the Tamil Nadu Dr.M.G.R. Medical University in the field of medical psychiatry.

In addition to his numerous professional achievements, Dr. Sathianathan has also made significant contributions to panel and workshops at the local, state, national and international levels on issues related to mental health. He is highly regarded by his colleagues and peers for his deep knowledge, compassion and commitment to improving the lives of those living with mental illness.

Dr. KARIKALAN N:



Dr. Karikalan is a public health expert and head of the Department of Social and Behavioural Research at the National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis (NIRT), a premier institute of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). He specializes in researching the social, behavioural, and economic determinants and risk factors for tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS. He has extensive experience in utilizing quantitative and qualitative research designs, cost-effectiveness modelling, and social network methods to understand the challenges faced by people with TB and HIV/AIDS. He has served as a principal investigator, co-investigator and research staff on numerous nationally and internationally funded projects.

Dr. Karikalan's expertise also includes social network methods in health research, and he has conceptualized research studies utilizing network sciences to address the complexity of infectious diseases such as TB and COVID-19 in India. He has developed standard protocols and tools for measuring social network-mediated support and resources for TB patients during their treatment course. Additionally, he has conducted research on the disclosure patterns of TB patients in India and the consequences of TB disclosure in terms of benefits or risks for patients. Overall, Dr. Karikalan's research has contributed significantly to improving the health outcomes and quality of life for people with TB and HIV/AIDS.

Thiru. KENNETH JEYSEELAN R.B:



Thiru. Kenneth Jeyseelan is an accomplished professional who currently serves as the Talent Development Head at Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). In this role, he oversees several key projects, including ILP, Elevate, and Focused Training Engagement. He holds an undergraduate degree in BA Economics from St. Joseph's College in Trichy, a graduate degree in MA social work from Loyola College in Chennai, and an M.Phil. from Alagappa University.

Thiru. Kenneth began his career as a full-time lecturer in the social work department at Loyola College before being appointed as the head of the department at Madras Christian College.

He then joined TCS as the lead for China and subsequently as the Learning and Development lead for the global financial transformation. He then worked as Human Resources (HR) Head, overseeing all aspects of HR for a client group at BPS with a headcount of more than 15,000 associates for five years.

Thiru. Kenneth's impressive career at TCS also includes a two-year tenure as the Performance Management Head. Throughout his 15 years of service to TCS, he has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership skills, a commitment to professional development, and a dedication to delivering results. Thiru Kenneth's professional achievements and extensive experience in the field of talent development and management makes him a distinguished speaker.

Mr. ASWIN KUMAR DAVID:



Mr. Aswin Kumar David is an accomplished professional with a proven track record in corporate social responsibility (CSR). He currently serves as the CSR regional head for South West Dalmia Cement, where he is responsible for implementing and managing various CSR projects. In recognition of his outstanding contributions, he has been awarded the prestigious CSR Leader Award in 2018 and has been appointed as a Global Goodwill Ambassador.

Mr. Kumar began his career as a Deputy Manager in CSR and worked with CAPART during his initial years. He is a proud alumnus of the Madras School of Social Work, where he gained a solid foundation in social work principles and practices. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated a deep commitment to making a positive impact on society through his work in CSR.

With extensive experience in the field of CSR, Mr. Kumar has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in implementing and managing CSR initiatives. He has a proven track record of delivering successful CSR programs that have made a significant impact on local communities. He is an accomplished speaker and has been invited to speak at various conferences and seminars about CSR.

Ms. PREETHI MATHEW:



Ms. Preethi Mathew is a Senior Manager at the Rainbow Homes Program - ARUN. She has a Master's degree in Social Work from the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda and has worked in the development sector since 2005. Her work experience includes serving as a Project Officer at the Centre for Environment Education, Project Coordinator at Plan International, Senior Research Associate at Indra Dhanush Academy at the Centre for Equity Studies, and Program Manager at the Kaivalya Education Foundation.

Ms. Mathew's focus has been on marginalized and excluded children, particularly street children. She has been working for the cause of street children through Rainbow Homes since 2010. Under her leadership, the Rainbow Model has expanded to eight cities across India, including Delhi, Kolkata, Patna, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, Bangalore, and Anantapur, with 44 homes and over 3000 children formerly on the streets. Her work is centred around capacity building of the staff members of all the homes. In addition, she is also working on documentation and research on issues of street children. Lately, she has been working on Knowledge Sharing and Exchange beyond the organization. Ms. Mathew's expertise and experience in the development sector makes her an invaluable asset to any organization focused on improving the lives of marginalized communities.

Ms. ASPY JOYSON:



Ms. Aspy Joyson is the Director and Founder Trustee of ARUWE, with extensive experience in the social development sector over three decades. She has a strong background in social work practice, with focus on the care, support, protection, rights, and welfare of the urban poor, particularly children, women, and elderly. Ms. Joyson is a highly respected member of the social work community and currently serves as a member of the Juvenile Justice Board, Chennai. She has been a former member of the Child Welfare Committee, Chennai, where she was instrumental in helping children in need of care and protection.

In addition to her work with ARUWE, Ms. Joyson is actively involved in various other organizations and committees. She is a member of the Advisory Committee for Shelter for the Homeless, Corporation of Chennai, ethics committee member at Agarwal Eye Hospital, board member of the International Institute of Psychotherapy, board member in IWID (Initiatives: Women Development organization), board member in FPTL, external member of ICC (Internal Complaints Committee for Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace) in companies Ashok Leyland, Yamaha, Comstar, Directorate of prosecution department (DOP), CID Civil supplies, Cognizant technologies, Mando Hella Electronics, NIEPMD, SIP academy, etc.

INTRODUCTION:

The panel discussion delved into the perspectives of social workers who work in various organizations and institutions, with a focus on their work experiences. The session was chaired by Prof. Joseph Injody, who has held various roles in the academic and administrative spheres of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kerala.



The other distinguished speakers for the session were Dr. R. Sathianathan, Dr. Karikalan N, Thiru Kenneth Jayseelan, Mr. Aswin Kumar, Ms. Aspy Joyson, and Ms. Preeti Mathew, who brought a wealth of expertise and knowledge to the panel. The session was attended by approximately 100 participants, and the session organizers were Dr. A. Enoch and Mr. Rufus Singh, while the Master of Ceremonies was Ms. Vidhya Lakshmi (BSW). The main objective of the meeting was to share the interventions used by various organizations and institutions in their respective fields. The discussion aimed to shed light on a range of important topics, including social work and mental health, socio-behavioural perspectives of health and social work, talent development and social work, corporate social responsibility, social work & family and child welfare, and comprehensive care models for children in street situations.

SPEAKER: Dr. R. Sathianathan

TOPIC DISCUSSED: Social Work and Mental Health

At the panel discussion on "Social Work and Mental Health," Dr. Sathianathan spoke about the crucial role of social workers in mental health interventions. He emphasized that social workers are often the first point of contact for individuals seeking help with mental health problems.



The Importance of Social Workers in Mental Health Interventions:

Dr. Sathianathan stressed that social workers are the backbone of mental health interventions. He noted that the complete history of a patient is essential to complete a diagnosis, and social workers are often best equipped to obtain this information. The speaker instructed social work students to engage in active listening and to develop rapport with patients to reduce stigma.

Managing Stress and Reactivity:

The speaker emphasized the importance of understanding stress levels and reactivity in individuals. He explained that social workers should be aware that stress levels vary from person to person and can lead to serious mental health issues, even for high-achieving students. Social workers should understand the psychodynamics of individuals to effectively approach interventions.



The Role of Social Workers in Patient Care:

Dr. Sathianathan emphasized that social workers are the only professionals who work with patients throughout the course of their treatment. He stressed that social workers should cultivate values of compassion and understanding to help patients feel heard and supported. Social workers should not get involved in their patients' problems but should be empathetic and supportive. Home visits, follow-ups and community outreach are essential parts of the social worker's role.

Current Challenges in Mental Health:

The speaker mentioned that adolescence is a turbulent time, and social workers must be prepared to address issues like sex, drug abuse and pornography. Marital problems are also increasing, with divorces occurring as early as two months into marriage. The speaker noted that social workers must be prepared to work with music therapy, group therapy and focus group discussions.

Challenges Faced by Elderly Persons:

Dr. Sathianathan warned that the care of elderly persons is diminishing, and depression and dementia are likely to increase in the next 20-30 years. Social workers must be prepared to address the unique challenges faced by elderly persons.

The Importance of Awareness and Education:

The speaker stressed that the fundamental role of social work interventions is to create awareness. He encouraged social workers to engage in self-training and to work in marginalized communities to better understand the struggles faced by these populations.

Conclusion:

Dr. Sathianathan concluded his speech by emphasizing the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to mental health interventions and the need for social work students in India to be informed of Western social work practices. The chairperson of the panel discussion concluded the session by highlighting the key points made by Dr. Sathianathan.

SPEAKER: Dr. Karikalan N

TOPIC DISCUSSED: Socio-Behavioural Perspectives of Health and Social Work.

The speaker started his session with the gist of his professional background. The speaker himself stands as an exemplar of interdisciplinary approach by being a AYUSH doctor and a Public Heath Social Worker.



Works of NIRT:

The speaker shared NIRT's vision of the eradication of Tuberculosis for around 70 years. They have been actively involved in research and development that involves all facets of tuberculosis including the severity of the infection and the psycho-social aspects of the disease.

Vulnerability:

Over a period, tuberculosis which once was a mere bacterial infection has now become a miserable disease among the subalterns of India. The speaker quoted this as the "Disease of Poverty." The speaker stated that the current situation has moved to a pathetic stage where on an average two to three lakh people are affected annually.



Domiciliary care:

Then a picture from European Respiratory Journal was shared to corroborate the fact of Sanatorium care for tuberculosis. As time flit, the sanatorium care moved to domiciliary care. This was validated with the paper presented by Madras Classic Study – ICMR – NIRT in 1952 on the topic, 'A Concurrent Comparison of Home and Sanatorium Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in South India'. This study disseminated that due to a deficit of beds for treatment, 'domiciliary chemotherapy' was chosen as an alternate for the treatment of the patients.

Social Workers' Role:

The speaker suggested that social workers should investigate the structural and economic factors that invariably contribute to the spread of a disease among the vulnerable populations. The focus must align with sustainability and a bottom-to-top approach to boost social intervention in this regard. The technological and scientific innovations will surely treat patients but a strike at the right spot will help in improving living conditions, addressing the gap within the communities, and advocating to the government to focus on public health.



Conclusion:

In conclusion, the speaker highlighted the crucial role of social workers in the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis, especially for vulnerable populations. The presentation focused on the work of the National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis (NIRT) in eradicating tuberculosis and the evolution of care from sanatoriums to domiciliary care. The speaker emphasized that medication alone cannot cure tuberculosis and that the active involvement of social workers is critical for the success of the treatment. Overall, the presentation shed light on the important role social workers play in public health and disease prevention, and underscored the need for a multidisciplinary approach that includes both scientific and social interventions. The speaker conveyed that the upcoming time needs social workers to focus on public health and disease prevention in order to create a healthier and equitable society.

SPEAKER: Thiru. Kenneth Jeyseelan R.B

TOPIC DISCUSSED: Talent Development and Social Work

Thiru. Kenneth Jeyseelan, is an esteemed figure in the field of Talent Development. He began his speech by expressing his pride in representing the social work fraternity and unveiled his extensive teaching experience for over a decade and more than sixteen years in the realm of HR. His speech focused on the importance of Talent Development in HR.



Current Layoff Crisis and the Role of Talent Development:

Thiru. Kenneth highlighted the urgency in handling the current layoff crisis, emphasizing that in 2023, 312 companies have laid off one lakh employees. He stated one of Albert Einstein's quotes, *"Education is not learning of facts but the training of the mind to think and respond"* and emphasized that both social workers and HR managers are pivotal in enhancing the talent pool of a country. He put forth a comprehensive two-step approach to tackle the current lay-off crisis, which includes embracing technology and investing in employee development.

Industry 4.0 and 5.0:

Thiru. Kenneth explained that change is propelled by the want of comfort and expounded that technological advancements are a by-product of human beings' desire to remain in their comfort zones and maintain homeostasis. He shed light on Industry 4.0 and 5.0, elucidating the future of technology. He confidently asserted that technological advancements will not only elevate the quality of life but also enhance the

intricacies of dealing with human beings.

Initiatives adopted by TCS:



Thiru. Kenneth provided insights into the initiatives adopted by TCS, such as the Elevate and Excel initiative, which consists of three distinct grades: the Junior Grade, a guided approach to learning; the Middle Grade, which is a choice-based approach to development; and the Senior Grade, a growth and transformation approach to talent management. He emphasized the importance of working with a sense of purpose to encourage talent development.

Diversity and Inclusion:

Thiru. Kenneth discussed the critical role that social workers can play in fostering a sense of belongingness among employees. He shared a personal anecdote about how TCS successfully implemented a new policy of 'Casual Fridays' through a simple email, which brought about a positive change in the company's dressing policy. He explained that social workers can act as a bridge between management and employees, promoting inclusivity and diversity by implementing policies and initiatives that cater to the needs and preferences of all employees.

Corporate Social Responsibility:

Thiru. Kenneth shed light on the Purpose of Life (P4L) and Fit for Life (F4L) initiatives adopted by TCS. The P4L initiative encourages every associate to dedicate 10 hours of their time towards community service. He also highlighted the TCS F4L Corporate Challenge, an annual event that brings together corporate participants from like-minded organizations to participate in a 10K timed competitive running event. The event promotes physical fitness among professionals while also contributing to a social cause.

Conclusion:

Thiru. Kenneth emphasized the importance of nurturing a healthy work-life balance and encouraged employees to pursue activities that promote their physical and mental wellbeing. He concluded his speech by reiterating the significance of Talent Development, diversity and inclusion, and corporate social responsibility in building a thriving and sustainable business ecosystem. Dr. Joseph Injody, the Chair of the session, commended Thiru. Kenneth for his insightful speech and for shedding light on the challenges faced by social workers in the field of HR.

SPEAKER: Mr. Aswin Kumar David

TOPIC DISCUSSED: Corporate Social Responsibility

The speaker, a proud alumnus of Madras School of Social Work, expressed his gratitude towards his alma mater for shaping him into the person he is today. He started his presentation by discussing the CSR projects handled by his company.



Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Initiatives:

The Dalmia Bharat Foundation (DBF) was established in 2009 as the CSR arm of the group's companies. The foundation operates in 18 districts across 12 states, covering vast regions in the South, North, East, Northeast and some areas in the West. The main agenda of the foundation is to give back to the society.

Community-Driven Development Programs:

The DBF believes in the limitless potential of human beings and focuses on communitydriven, beneficiary-centric development programs. The programs combine in-depth long-term plans and strategies along with medium and short-term initiatives and campaigns. DBF has four focus areas that have been derived from the needs felt by the community and those related to the business.



Sustainability Initiatives:

Dalmia Cement has joined the Fossil Free Electricity Initiative to commit to a long-term transition to renewable energy. The company has identified the potential to generate 40 MW of green power through waste heat recovery from exit gases in its plants. Dalmia Bharat Sugar and Industries Limited (DBSIL), recycles and reuses water, generates renewable power through the use of bagasse and employs various energy-saving initiatives.

Skill Development Programs:

DBF has been working on improving the skills of the neighbouring community to ensure better livelihoods. The foundation is actively involved in imparting skill training in the farm and non-farm sectors, building community-based organizations and improving access to finance.

Empowering Women and Supporting Farmers:

The company empowers women through various self-help groups and supports the livelihoods of farmers through drip irrigation, pisciculture, etc.

Social Infrastructure:

DBF focuses on social infrastructure. including health, education and the needs of the communities.

Conclusion:

The speaker ended his presentation by emphasizing the importance of building a life and career based on ethics and values. The presentation was a reminder that corporate entities have a significant role to play in society beyond their organizational interests. The efforts made by the DBF in the areas of sustainability, social infrastructure, and skill training are a testament to the company's commitment to being a conscientious corporate entity. Such initiatives must be encouraged and emulated by other companies to create a more just and equitable society for all.

SPEAKER: Ms. Preethi Mathew

TOPIC DISCUSSED: Comprehensive Care Model for Children in Street Situations



The speaker began with an introduction about herself and Rainbow Homes. She recalled her previous visit to the Madras School of Social Work in December and said that she got huge responses and attention from the participants which she didn't receive in a long time. The speaker mentioned the friends who had come along with her. Due to time constraint, she limited her content delivery for the session.

The Story Behind Rainbow Homes:

The speaker shared a story about a female child who was raped outside a government school. The principal of the school decided to bring her and many other homeless children inside the government school for their safety, and this was the time when the idea of 'Rainbow Homes' was born. The speaker explained how the homes were constructed for the female children after facing lot of resistance, arguments, and deliberation. Eventually, the children found a safe space inside the school. The speaker mentioned that the principal of the school, Sr. Cyril constructed a roof above the terrace of the school as a shelter for the female children to stay there 24/7 and provided them safety and protection.

The Role of Social Workers in Solving Social Issues:

The speaker posed a question to the social work professionals: What if neither sister nor the system had taken a step to solve the problem? She emphasized that the solution to a problem starts within oneself. She encouraged future social workers to work for social causes and not underestimate their power to make a change, as a social cause may change into a movement like 'Rainbow Homes', which currently is reaching out to 5000 children.

The establishment of Rainbow Homes:

The speaker explained that Rainbow Homes was not started off by a group of people but by very minimal number of people who wanted to bring social change. After working with the children, they understood the category of children who conflict with the law and children who need care and protection and the procedures to be followed. Members of Rainbow Homes followed the procedure according to the law which has been established by the government.

Comprehensive care provided by Rainbow Homes:

The speaker explained how they transformed empty school buildings into liveable spaces where children can live without fear and can live with safety and protection which is 'comprehensive care'. Comprehensive care is a program to protect street and homeless children where they provide children not only with food and shelter but with care for each and every aspect that makes them feel safe. Long-term care is provided for children from 6 years old to 18 years and care is provided up to 23 years till the children become independent and settle in their lives.

An ecosystem of care:

'An Ecosystem of care' is provided to the children where the children come from different backgrounds and cultures and are cared for by people from diversified fields and capacities like social workers, home mothers, or social mobilizers. Everyone uniquely contributes to the child, and they also provide diversified care to the community. Rainbow Homes are not only working in homes but some children are restored back to their parents and are working in the community as well.

The impact of Rainbow Homes:

The speaker highlighted that a child in society is cared for by a number of people including the government, donors, well-wishers, mentors, organizations, neighborhoods, etc., and that makes a very big change in the lives of these children.

Sharing of knowledge and resources:

The speaker also discussed how Rainbow Homes has created documents in every area of work like education, finances, advocacy manual, home management, emergency protocols, etc. that are intended to be shared with other NGOs and students. They have also launched two courses in Udemy, available worldwide for students who use this platform.

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Key Perspectives and Principles for Social Workers:

The speaker shared her perspectives on social workers: work, family, friends, and significant others will have a lot of influence on us and if our work-life values are different from personal life values a social worker will face a lot of problems. It will create a conflict within 'Oneself'

"Change your life first and then change the society's"

Then the speaker pitched some questions to the participants to think about the situation and reflect upon it.

Speaker stated the key principles which are to be followed they are

- Being a lifelong learner
- Continuously appreciate self
- Know your problem
- Emotional quotient
- Focus on work life balance
- Speak for yourself
- Working with integrity

Speaker explained how a leader should work on who takes initiative, risks, responsibility, empowering the team, connecting, etc.

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Conclusion:

In conclusion, the speech delivered by Ms. Preeti Mathew highlighted the inspiring story of how Rainbow Homes came into existence, and how it is currently making a positive impact on the lives of thousands of homeless children. The speaker emphasized the importance of social workers in connecting with people facing problems and bringing about positive changes in society. The key principles discussed by the speaker, including being a lifelong learner, emotional quotient, work-life balance, and speaking for oneself, are essential for any individual seeking to make a difference in the world. The Chairperson's reflections on the speech, urging us to "Practice what we preach" and "Give hope to the hopeless", were particularly thought-provoking. Overall, the session was informative and inspiring, and Ms. Preeti Mathew was felicitated for her commendable efforts in creating a brighter future for underprivileged children.

SPEAKER: Ms. Aspy Joyson

TOPIC DISCUSSED: Social Work & Family and Child Welfare

Mrs. Aspy Joyson began her speech by thanking Dr. Raja Samuel, Principal and Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, HOD for giving her the opportunity to share her perspective on social work interventions with budding social work students.

Changing social work values:

The speaker expressed her concern regarding the decreasing value of social work in contemporary times. She reflected on her own experiences as a social work student, where fieldwork was embraced without hesitation. She observed that the current generation of social work students prioritizes their careers and personal comfort over social work, unlike their predecessors. Ms. Joyson further highlighted the trend of choosing corporate social responsibility (CSR) over grassroots non-governmental organizations, citing Ms. Preethi Mathew's statement on the limited demand for residential social work positions.



In elaborating on the role of a social worker, Ms. Joyson introduced the concept of 'womb to tomb', emphasizing that social work spans a person's entire life from birth to death. Drawing from her experience as a member of the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) and former Child Welfare Committee (CWC) member, she provided case studies as examples of successful interventions.



Case Study 1:

Ms. Joyson explained the case study of a teenage girl who got Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) and CWC's intervention to support her. The girl was below 15 years old and was sent to the CWC. Ms. Joyson put forth the thought that as a social worker, one should not display judgement towards clients. Ms. Joyson emphasized the importance of avoiding judgment when working with clients as a social worker. She shared how providing non-biased support to the girl helped her overcome the trauma associated with the experience.

Case Study 2:

Ms. Joyson talked about the case study of a woman who wanted to surrender her child born out of wedlock, and how CWC's intervention helped her to retain the child and raise him competently. Legally, a mother can take back her surrendered child within 60 days of surrendering. On CWC's intervention, the mother took her child back on the 57th day. The mother and the son are happy now. The child is 5 years old and is going to school.

Case Study 3:

Ms. Joyson highlighted a case study of a family where the father wanted to surrender their child because of his neurological problems. The mother was not willing to give up her child. She explained how networking with a medical professional helped the family keep the child and raise him with the care he needed. The doctor is still helping the family with the child's neurological problems.

Case Study 4:

Ms. Joyson cited an instance where a child had to abandon his/her education and work to support his/her family. She elaborated on how the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) intervened to facilitate the child's re-enrolment in school. Additionally, the committee assisted the child's mother in finding a sustainable source of income to provide for the family.



One Child One Mentor:

Ms. Joyson reflected on her role as a social worker. She explained her work on the concept of 'one child one mentor' to reduce repeated crimes of children. She put forth the idea that if every child is mentored, their reformation process will be more effective

Conclusion:

In conclusion, Ms. Joyson's speech shed light on the challenges faced by social workers in today's world and the need for them to uphold the values and principles of social work. She emphasized the role of social workers in bringing about positive change in society and presented case studies as examples of interventions. Her insights and experiences provided valuable knowledge for the audience, and her emphasis on remaining unbiased and non-judgmental towards clients was particularly noteworthy. Overall, Ms. Joyson's speech served as a reminder of the critical importance of social work and the need for professionals to remain committed to their core values and principles.

Question and Answer Session:

Q: What suggestion would you give to upcoming professionals from a social worker perspective?



A: As a social worker, it is important to have social mobilization skills and community development expertise. Upon completing their education and training, students should feel confident in their skill sets, which are often lacking. Today, multiple skill sets are needed and expected, including presentation, excel, documentation, and communication skills. Social workers are instrumental in driving change within society, and it is crucial to recognize that there is a shortage of social workers in the field.





STREET PLAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION		
5.24 PM	Introduction of Mr. Jayachandran,		
5.25 PM	Felicitation of the judge by, Mr. S. Xavier Vivek Jerry, Assistant professor MSSW.		
5.26 PM	Guidelines were clarified by the host		
5.27 PM	Street play performance by 'Anna Adarsh college for women' team commenced		
5.36 PM	Street play performance by 'Anna Adarsh college for women' team end		
5.37 PM	Street play performance by 'Ambedkar college of arts and science' team began		
5.45 PM	Street play performance by 'Ambedkar college of arts and science' tear ended		
5.46 PM	Street play performance by 'Loyola college, Chennai' commenced		
5.54 PM	Street play performance by 'Loyola college' was concluded.		
5.55 PM	Street play performance by 'Madras School of Social Work' team began		
6.12 PM	Street play performance by 'Madras School of Social Work' team was concluded		
6.13 PM	Mr. Jayachandran talked about the importance of Street play in social w		
6.25. PM	Mr. S. Xavier Vivek Jerry presented memento to the Judge Mr. R. Jayachandran		
6.27 PM	Announcement of Winners by the Judge		
6.32 PM	Distribution of prizes by Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, Dr. Kumaravel, Mr. Jayachandran and Mr. Jerry.		
6.34 PM	Street play session was concluded		

CHIEF GUEST PROFILE

MR. R. JAYACHANDRAN

Mr. R. Jayachandran is a multi-talented individual with diverse skills and experiences in various fields. He is a successful theatre director and writer, and he presently runs the Kael theatre group. He has written and directed numerous plays, and he received the best director award for the 'short and sweet international theatre festival 2022'.



Apart from theatre, Mr. R. Jayachandran is also an actor, and he has appeared in films and performed in various television comedy shows on Star Vijay TV. He is known for his comedic timing and observational comedy performances. He is a member of the comedy club 'Maanga Idiots' and has performed stand-up comedy shows.

Mr. R. Jayachandran is the director of 'BlueJays Media Works,' a media company that works on communication strategies for green and sustainable development. He is passionate about environmental conservation and uses his skills to promote green initiatives.

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In addition to his work in theatre, comedy, and media, Mr. R. Jayachandran is also a social commentator. His social satire show 'Jai ki baat' is popular on Vikatan TV's YouTube channel, and he was awarded the title of KPY season 9. He is a guest lecturer for various institutions and serves as a master trainer for Agaram Foundation, which provides education and employment opportunities for underprivileged youth.



Mr. R. Jayachandran is a tech-savvy individual and has also worked as an App Jockey for Maestro Ilayaraja's official music app 'Maestros Music'.

Overall, Mr. R. Jayachandran is a talented and versatile individual with a passion for creativity, comedy, and social causes.

REPORT

On March 2nd, 2023, a street play competition took place at the Open-Air Theatre. The competition officially commenced at 5:24 PM. The event was organized by Mr. S. Xavier Vivek Jerry, Assistant Professor, Madras School of Social Work. Approximately 200

audience members were present to witness the performances. The event was hosted by Ms. Caroline, a 3rd-year BSW student. At 5.25 pm, Mr. Xavier Vivek Jerry felicitated the judge for the competition. The host of the event then clarified the guidelines for the street play performance



GUIDELINES FOR THE COMPETITION:

- Maximum members in a team should be 10 and not more than 10. This rule is in place to ensure that all teams have an equal opportunity to participate and to prevent any team from having an unfair advantage due to a larger number of members.
- The duration of the play should be 10 minutes at maximum. This time limit is in place to ensure that the competition runs smoothly and on time. The judges will be instructed to deduct points from teams that exceed the time limit.
- The decision of the judge will be final and binding. The judges' decision is final and cannot be appealed. Participants must accept the judge's decision with good sportsmanship.

- The play should be relevant to the theme. All plays must adhere to the competition theme. Participants must ensure that their play is relevant to the given theme and conveys a clear message.
- Indecent language is not allowed. Any use of indecent language or inappropriate behaviour during the competition will result in immediate disqualification. Participants must ensure that their play is suitable for all audiences.
- These guidelines are put in place to ensure a fair and enjoyable competition for all participants. All teams must follow the rules and regulations set forth by the
 - organizers. The competition aims to promote creativity, teamwork, and effective communication skills among participants.

Performances:

The performances of the participants began at 5.27 pm, and the audience was captivated by the creativity and originality of each performance. The street plays highlighted a range of social issues, including gender inequality, poverty, and environmental degradation.

The competition was highly competitive, with each team bringing their unique style and creativity to the performances. The audience was highly engaged and responded enthusiastically to each performance.

Overall, the street play performances were a great success, with the participants showcasing their talents and addressing important social issues. The event was well-organized, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the performances.

STREET PLAY BY ANNA ADARSH COLLEGE FOR WOMEN:

On March 3rd, 2023, a team of 10 students from the BSW department of Anna Adarsh College for Women participated in the street play event held in the Open-Air Theatre at the MSSW Campus. The team showcased their talent and creativity through their performance on the theme of 'Women equality and struggles faced by them in the society'.



The performance started at 5.27 PM and was well-received by the audience. The team's street play highlighted the various issues faced by women in society, including discrimination, harassment, and lack of access to education and employment opportunities. The team's performance was both thought-provoking and impactful, leaving a lasting impression on the audience.



The team's performance was notable for its creativity, use of dialogue and actions, and its ability to convey a powerful message in a short amount of time. The team worked collaboratively to create a memorable and impactful performance that highlighted the importance of women's rights and equality. Anna Adarsh College for Women was a strong participant in the street play event, showcasing their talent, creativity, and dedication to important social issues. Their performance was a powerful reminder of the importance of gender equality and the on going struggles faced by women in society.

Description of the performance:

The street play performance by the team of 10 BSW students from Anna Adarsh college for women was an engaging and thought-provoking portrayal of the struggles faced by women in society. The play started with a powerful statement, showcasing the disappointment of the parents on the birth of a girl child. The team mocked the traditional practice of using only the father's initials in the girl's name, highlighting the biased mindset of society towards girls.

The play continued with a portrayal of the discrimination faced by girls in society, where they are not allowed to play in public or express themselves through dance. The team further symbolized the societal pressure on girls for early marriage by using ropes and chains to represent the restrictions placed on them.



The play also addressed the issue of female foeticide and infanticide, which are still prevalent in some parts of the country. The team criticized the social system that denies equal position and power to women, which is often fueled by patriarchal and sexist beliefs.

The performance was not only informative but also intriguing as the team depicted sexual violence and portrayed it as animalistic behavior. The audience was captivated by the performance, which ended with a folk song in the "oppari" genre, a form of mourning, addressing the pain and struggles faced by women.

The performance was impactful, highlighting the importance of women's equality and the need to eradicate social evils like gender discrimination, female foeticide, and infanticide. The team's message was delivered in an artistic and comical way, making the performance an engaging and memorable experience. The performance ended at 5.36 PM, leaving the audience with a lasting impression.

STREET PLAY BY AMBEDKAR COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE:

A team of 6 students of MSW from Ambedkar College of Arts and Science participated in the street play event. Their performance began at 5.37 PM, and their theme was 'Relevance of social work education in society'.



The play began with a scene of a distressed family, struggling to cope with the challenges of their daily lives. The protagonist, a social worker, enters the scene and begins to interact with the family members, offering guidance and support. The social worker's intervention has a positive impact on the family, and they begin to overcome their difficulties.

The play continues to showcase various scenarios where social work education and interventions can bring about positive change in society. The actors portrayed real-life situations such as domestic violence, substance abuse, and poverty, where social workers can play a crucial role in improving the lives of individuals and families.



The play emphasized the importance of social work education in understanding social issues, developing critical thinking skills, and promoting social justice. The actors showcased the various roles and responsibilities of social workers in different settings such as hospitals, schools, and communities.

The play ended with a message encouraging the audience to consider pursuing social work education and join the effort to create a more just and equitable society. The audience appreciated the performance, and the team received a round of applause for their efforts. The performance concluded at 5.46 PM.



Description of the performance:

The play began with two friends who were running late for college, and one of them was excited to showcase his football skills. When the other friend admired his talent, the football enthusiast expressed his disappointment that mere talent was not enough to succeed in life. The play then transitioned to modern times where gender inequalities have been addressed, and women have equal opportunities to succeed. The actors conveyed the message that social efforts can bring about equality. The play then continued with groups of MSW students who shared their future aspirations, highlighting the relevance and scope of the MSW course. The performance concluded at 5.45 PM.

STREET PLAY BY LOYOLA COLLEGE:

At 5.46 PM, a group of 10 students from Loyola College participated in the event by performing a street play. Their play was based on the theme of 'Social Equality and Unity'.

Description of the performance:

At 5:46 PM, a team of 10 students from Loyola College presented a thought-provoking street play on the theme of "Social equality and unity" at the Open-Air Theatre in the MSSW Campus. The play began with a captivating awareness song in the folk genre, promoting the idea of equality. Throughout the performance, the actors challenged the existence and implementation of equality in society. They depicted a scenario where caste-based burial grounds created conflicts during a funeral, and also humorously portrayed religious conflicts. The play concluded with the actors encouraging the audience to chant slogans that embraced social equality. The performance ended at 5:54 PM.



Street Play by Madras School of Social Work:

At 5.55 PM, a guest performance was conducted by a team of 10 social work students, where they highlighted the significance of social work and social workers in the society.

Description of the performance:

During the guest performance, the team of actors captivated the audience through a combination of songs and comical characters to narrate the story. They introduced the MSW course by portraying an uninformed student and explaining the importance of fieldwork. Through their performance, they highlighted the seriousness of the public's

ignorance on labor bonds and showcased the role and scope of social work. The play also shed light on the struggles of disabled individuals and the traumatic experiences that lead to suicidal tendencies, emphasizing the significance of disability social work. The team concluded by encouraging the audience to further explore the importance and relevance of social work through a folk song. The performance ended at 6.12 PM.



ADDRESS BY THE JUDGE:

After the performances, the judge delivered a speech on the importance of street play in social work. The speech began at 6.13 PM and the speaker first mentioned the revolution of street play in literature since the 1970s. The speaker then went on to highlight the significance of street play in the modern world, introducing 'Arivoli iyakkam' as an example of how street play can be used to create awareness in rural India, especially among tribal and dalit communities.

The speaker emphasized how street plays can simplify complex ideas and communicate them to people. They argued that street plays do not require professional actors, only the right key and format. The speaker also emphasized the need for social workers to learn street play and shared an incident where a social worker used street play to convey an entire booklet of content to a large audience.



The speaker further explained how street play can be used for training and development and cited an example where individuals were happy to attend a street play focused on creating awareness and educating. The speaker implied that ideas and knowledge can be conveyed in a simple yet interactive way through street play.

The speaker also distinguished 'therukoothu' and street play, stating that therukoothu is an ancient form of religious literature while street play is a modern art form. The speaker mentioned that entrepreneurs can use street play as well and shared their personal experience of performing a street play on wasting water and parking conflicts, which resulted in significant behavioral change. The speech concluded at 6.24 PM, with the speaker emphasizing that street play is a 'walk on knife' but is an effective tool to create dialogue and interaction.**Memento**:

Mr. S. Xavier Vivek Jerry presented the memento to the judge at 6.25 PM

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRIZES:

At 6.27 PM, the judge declared the competition winners, commended the participants, provided them with words of encouragement, and offered suggestions for their future endeavors. The judge announced the winners of the competition at 6.27 PM, appreciated the participants, encouraged the participants and gave suggestions to them.

Prize winners:

1st place – Loyola College, Chennai

 $2^{nd}\, place$ – Ambedkar college of arts and science

3rd place – Anna Adarsh college for women





PRIZE DISTRIBUTION:

The street play competition came to an end with the presence of notable individuals such as Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, Head of the Department of Social Work at MSSW, Dr. S. Kumaravel, an Assistant Professor at Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, as well as Mr. R. Jeyachandran and Mr. S. Xavier Vivek Jerry. Cash prizes of Rs. 1500, Rs. 1000, and Rs. 750 were awarded to the winners for the first, second, and third places respectively. The event concluded at 6.34 PM.











CULTURAL EVENTS

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION		
6.35 PM	Welcome Address was delivered by Ms. Vidyalakshmi and Ms. Sonali		
6.37 PM	Introduction about cultural events		
6.39 PM	Classical welcome dance was performed by Ms. Padmapriya-III-BSW		
6.44 PM	Karagattam by students of MSW (Aided)		
6.47 PM	Oyilattam was performance by BSW and MSW (Disability and Empowerment) department		
6.53PM	Banghra performance by BSW students, MSSW		
6.56PM	Mime performance by MSW (Aided) students, MSSW		
7.04PM	Paraiyattam has commenced		
7.15PM	Vote of thanks by Ms. Vidyalakshmi		

REPORT

INTRODUCTION: On March 2nd, 2023, at 6:35 pm, the International Conference's cultural events were held, showcasing a diverse range of traditional dances and performances. The Master of Ceremony was skillfully handled by two students from the BSW department, Ms. Vidyalakshmi and Ms. Sonali, who kept the audience engaged throughout the event with their confident and articulate presentation.

The events featured a range of traditional dances, including Bharatanatyam, Karagattam, Oyilattam, Banghra dance, Mime, and Parai. These performances were all carried out by students from the social work department, who put on a fantastic display of their cultural heritage. The performances were very well-organized, and each one of them was unique and distinctive.

Bharatanatyam is a classical dance form from southern India that involves a combination of facial expressions, hand gestures, and body movements to tell a story. The Karagattam dance is a traditional dance form from Tamil Nadu that involves balancing a pot on the head while dancing. Oyilattam is a folk dance from Tamil Nadu that involves rhythmic movements and spinning of colorful umbrellas. Banghra dance is a popular dance form from Punjab that involves lively and energetic movements. Mime is a unique form of performance art that involves the use of facial expressions, gestures, and body language to convey emotions and tell a story. Parai is a traditional folk drumming performance that is widely popular in Tamil Nadu.



The performances were a true reflection of the diversity and richness of various cultural traditions. The students put in a lot of effort and practice to ensure that their performances

were flawless and enjoyable. The event was an excellent opportunity for participants to appreciate and learn more about traditional dances and cultural practices from various parts of India.

Overall, the cultural events were a fantastic display of traditional culture, dance, and performance that truly highlighted the diversity and richness of various cultural traditions. The students from the social work department should be commended for their hard work and dedication in organizing and presenting such a wonderful event. It was an excellent opportunity for all participants to learn more about the diverse cultural heritage of India.

WELCOME DANCE: During the cultural events for the International Conference, a welcome dance in the form of Bharatanatyam was performed by Ms. Padmapriya, a student from the BSW department. Her performance was vibrant, colorful, and energetic, captivating the audience's attention and setting a lively tone for the rest of the evening's events. Her skillful movements and graceful expressions truly embodied the essence of the Bharatanatyam dance form, leaving a lasting impression on everyone in attendance. Overall, it was an impressive and enjoyable performance.



KARAGATTAM: Karagattam is an ancient dance of Tamil Nadu performed in praise of rain Goddess Mriamman. This dance was performed by a team consisting of 3 students from social work department students (aided). The social work department students presented a performance of mime, a genre that relies primarily on the actor's body for expression. The seven students who performed the mime were well-received by the audience, who applauded their performance enthusiastically.



OYILATTAM: The social work department students presented a performance of mime, a genre that relies primarily on the actor's body for expression. The seven students who performed the mime were well-received by the audience, who applauded their performance enthusiastically.



Students of Social department students showcased Oyilattam, one of the traditional dance forms of Tamil Nadu, which they performed with great coordination and skill. To conclude their performance, they also included a Karagattam dance.



BANGHRA DANCE: A Punjabi dance was performed by four students from the social work department. The performance was a unique and captivating spectacle, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the Punjabi community. Although it was a short performance, the dancers displayed excellent coordination throughout, moving in perfect harmony to the rhythm of the music.



Their graceful movements and expressive gestures truly brought the dance to life, leaving a lasting impression on the audience. Overall, it was an excellent display of cultural diversity and talent.

MIME: Mime is a theatrical genre that emphasizes the physical movements and gestures of the performers to convey emotions, actions, and events without the use of speech. In this particular event, the social work department students took the stage and performed a mime, utilizing their bodies as the primary means of expression. The performance featured seven students who skillfully portrayed a variety of scenarios through their movements. The audience was thoroughly entertained by the performance and applauded the students' efforts wholeheartedly.



PARAI: Parai attam is a traditional dance form in Tamil culture, where dancers use the beats of a parai drum to create an energetic and rhythmic performance. A group of 12 students from the social work department performed this dance. The team's synchronized movements and skillful drumming captivated the audience and made for an enjoyable experience. The parai attam performance lasted for 14 minutes and served as the final cultural event of the day. Overall, it was a fantastic showcase of Tamil culture and dance.



VOTE OF THANKS: At the end of the event, Ms. Vidyalakshmi, pursuing Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree, delivered a vote of thanks. She expressed gratitude to all of the participants who took part in the event, as well as to the audience members who attended and supported the performances. Her words of appreciation conveyed a sense of unity and community among everyone involved, highlighting the importance of coming together to celebrate diverse cultures and traditions. The vote of thanks was delivered by Ms. Vidyalakshmi, BSW.

STALLS

There were 14 stalls that was displayed during the international conference. Various NGO's displayed their products, the profit they received from these stalls were utilized for the welfare of the underprivileged. There were various stalls that was displayed by the students from various departments of Social Work to showcase their talents.

Stalls No.	Products sold	Name of stall owner	
1	Cloth bags, shopping bags, apron, towel, sling	M.Baskar, Arunodhaya Charitable	
2	purses, wire baskets, pencil pouch Brownie, cakes and Oreo cakes	trust, Kolathur, Chennai Dharshini, HROD	
3	Sprouted coconut	Metha, MASE, 1 st Year	
4	Handmade gift items	Jayashree, BSW 3 rd year	
5	Scented candles, keychains, dreamcatchers, crafts items	Dhanush, BSW 3 rd year	
6	Goli Soda	Kritika, MSW (Aided)	
7	Earrings, band, hairclip and chain	Jenitha	
8	Fabrics, wooden products and jute products.	Arvind Foundation, Chennai	
9	Jute Products, candles, coconut shells and bamboo products.	Reena, IMH	
10	Seedballs, seed pencils, palm olai products, coco coir	Senthil Kumar, HUMAART	
11	Cloth bags, pillow covers, towels, bedsheets and purses	Pandi, Mission to the Blind	
12	Wallets, belts, leather card holder	Prabhakaran, ITHIHAAS	
13	Herbal soap, mositurser, lipbalm,	Munawra and Raunak, MSW 1 st year Aided	
14	Juice, pickle, snacks, Soap, jute bags and wire baskets	Harini Jeyaran, YWCHA, Navajeevan project, Chennai	







DAY - 2 PAPER PRESENTATIONS

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION	
9:23 AM	The paper presentation for parallel session 1 was held at MBF1 and Dr. D. Binu Sahayam, PhD., was the chairperson for the session.	
9:24 AM	Ms.R. Sneha of MSW Shift 1 welcomed the chairperson and Benita Grace(D&E) introduced the chairperson.	
9:25 AM	Presentation on "The challenges based on Personal Constraints of Women's Participation in Local Self Governance" by Dr Ganesh and Ms. M Jeevanthi.	
9:41 AM	Presentation on "Women as counselors in Urban Local Governance, Chengalpettu District, Tamil Nadu'' by Ms. S. Manthra Shree and Dr. P. Amuthalakshmi.	
9:50 AM	Presentation on "Widows and social work practice in India: A road map for sustainable development" by Ms Jeyabaskaran S and Dr Hilaria Soundari	
10:14 AM	Presentation on "A study on the challenges faced by Rural working women and strategies to achieve work-life balance" by Ms. E. Joyce and Dr. Bailey Vincent.	
10:23 AM	Presentation on "Perception of parents on early interventions for their children with developmental disorders" by Ms Priya N and Dr T Kavitha	
10:35 AM	Presentation on "Issues and challenges faced by the parents in raising their adolescent's residing in the tenements of TNUHDB" by Ms A. Souparnika and Dr A Enoch.	
10:46 AM	Presentation on "A Study on The Educational Issues Faced by Adolescents in Resettlement Colonies" by Ms. Nivetha B	
11:00 AM	Presentation on "A Study on the role of sports in Education and skill development of slum adolescents in Kannagi Nagar" by Mr Vasudev MG and Dr Lakshmi J	
11:03 AM	Ms. Sneha delivered Vote of Thanks and Dr J. Chandrasekhar felicitated the chairperson	

CHAIRPERSON'S PROFILE

Dr. D. BINU SAHAYAM, Ph.D



Dr. D. Binu Sahayam, PhD is an accomplished social worker who has achieved several notable accomplishments in her field. She holds a SET (Social Work) certification from Bharathiar University in Tamilnadu, as well as a NET (Social Work) certification from the University Grants Commission (UGC) in New Delhi.

In addition to her academic achievements, she is also recognized for her exceptional contributions in the field of social work. Dr. D. Binu Sahayam has received the Best Field Worker award (Star of Aruwe) from Aruwe, Non-governmental organization which promotes welfare of underprivileged and marginalized communities. She was also part of the editorial committee of the yearly magazine "Bimbangal" of the Department of Social work, Loyola College and served as a volunteer for Tsunami Relief Work (Natural Disaster), Tamil Nadu.

Dr. D. Binu Sahayam has conducted several research studies focusing on the most pertinent social issues such as in 2004, she conducted a study on the social community condition of I.T.I Adolescent Boys in Don Bosco Beatitudes, Chennai, Tamil Nadu. And in 2005, she conducted an opinion study on corporal punishment in schools in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. As part of her M.Phil Fieldwork Practicum, she created a model for empowering women living with HIV/AIDS, using the "Audrey Mullender and Dave Ward: Self Directed Group Work Model". This research study showcases her ability to translate theory into practical applications in the field of social work. Dr. D. Binu Sahayam research demonstrates her dedication to understand the complex social issues that affect people's lives, as well as her commitment to creating effective solutions that can make a meaningful difference. Her work has likely contributed to improving the lives of many individuals and communities. Due to her prior experience in the field she was found suitable to chair this session under the theme of "Social work with women, adolescents, and children".

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The paper presentation for parallel session 1 was held at MBF1 from 9:20 am. The parallel session 1 highlighted the theme "Social work with women, adolescents, and children". Dr. Binu Sahayam,Ph.D Assistant professor from Vellore Institute of Technology, Tamil Nadu, chaired the session, and Dr. J. Chandrasekhar, Assistant Professor of MSSW, was the faculty coordinator for the session. The Master of Ceremonies was Ms. R. Sneha of MSW Shift 1, and Ms. Benitta Gracelin of MSW Disability and Empowerment Department introduced the speaker to the gathering.

Name of Presenters	Title of the paper
Ms. Jeevanthi, Assistant	The Challenges Based on Personal Constraints of Women's
Professor, M.S.W., M.Phil.	Participation in Local Self-Governance.
Ms. S. Manthra Shree,	Women as counselors in Urban Local Governance,
Dr. P Amuthalakshmi,	Chengalpettu District, Tamil Nadu
Assistant Professor	a my Kun my Kun my Ku
	Widows and Social Work Practice in India: A Road Map for
Ms Jeyabaskaran S	Sustainable Development
	A Study on the Challenges faced by Rural Working Women
Ms. E. Joyce	and Strategies to achieve Work-life Balance.
Ms Priya N	Perception of Parents on Early Interventions for their
	Children with Developmental Disorders.
Ms A. Souparnika	A CONTRACT AND A
	Issues and Challenges Faced by the Parents in Raising their
	Adolescent's Residing in the Tenements of TNUHDB.
Ms. Nivetha B	A Study on The Educational Issues Faced by Adolescents in
	Resettlement Colonies.
Mr Vasudev MG	A Study on the role of sports in Education and skill
	development of slum adolescents in Kannagi nagar

PAPER PRESENTERS DURING PANEL I









CONCLUSION

The Chairperson Dr. Binu Sahayam, gave suggestions to the paper presenters for their future research. And the session was concluded by the Chairperson, appreciating the efforts of the presenters for choosing diverse topic which needs a social work intervention.

Dr. J. Chandrasekhar felicitated the Chairperson, Dr. Binu Sahayam, and the session was concluded by 11:05 AM.



TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION	
9.25 AM	Arrival of chief guest to the Venue.	
9.26 AM	Dr. S. Sudarmathy welcomed the chief guest Dr. R. Sakthi Prabha to the gathering.	
9.26 AM	Ms. Varsha, I year MSW D& E introduced the chief guest Dr. R. Sakthi Prabha to the audience.	
9.29 AM	Dr. R. Sakthi Prabha delivered the rules and regulations for the paper presentation.	
9.30 AM	Presentation on "Supportive Supervision in Health Care Delivery: A model for non-governmental organization" by Dr. Mohd Arif Khan	
9.43 AM	Dr. Mohd Arif Khan concluded the presentation	
9.43 AM	Presentation on "A Comparative Study of Mental Health Status of Destitute Elderly Women in Old Age Home and in Rural Area in Mayiladuthurai District" by Ms. B. Sofiya and Dr. S. Sangeeta	
9.52 AM	Ms. B.Sofiya and Dr. S. Sangeeta concluded the presentation with suggestions.	
9.53 AM	Presentation on "Psychological Wellbeing of Disabled Women Workers: Insights from the Fibre Crafts Industry of Kerala" by Dr. Ganga. P. Sreenivasan and Dr. M. Hilaria Soundari	
10.04 AM	Dr. Ganga. P. Sreenivasan concluded the presentation.	
10.04 AM	Presentation on "A Study on The Role of Anganwadis in Improving Health Condition of Women and Children" by Ms. Aswathy E S; Ms. Anamika Chandran and Ms.Roseme Paul	
10.12 AM	Ms. Aswathy E S; Ms. Anamika Chandran concluded the session.	
10:13 AM	Presentation on "Perspectives of Women in Kerala on Menstruation an Menstrual Leave" by Ms. P J Nanditha & Dr. K. Sathyamurthi	
10.23 AM	Ms. P J Nanditha concluded the presentation.	
10:24 AM	Presentation on "Stress faced by Adolescent Girls due to Vaginal Problems- A study from Bapatla - Bapatla District" by Mrs. Kondamudi Sai Sindhuri	
10:32 AM	Mrs. Kondamudi Sai Sindhuri concluded the presentation.	
10:33 AM	Presentation on "Quality of Life of Cancer Patients in Hospice Care in Chennai" by Ms. Pavithra P, P J Nanditha and Dr. K Sathyamurthi	
10:38 AM	Ms. Pavithra P concluded the presentation.	
10:3 AM	Presentation on "Holistic well-being of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis" by Ms. Hemanandhini V S, Ms. Divinya Scaria and Ms. Aswani B Nair	
10:47AM	Ms. Hemanandhini V S, Ms. Divinya Scaria and Ms. Aswani B Nair concluded the presentation.	
10:48 AM	Presentation on "Study on the Well-being and the Psycho Social effect of	

	Bullying among Young Adults in Chennai" by Ms. Tanya Tracy George and Dr. T. Kavitha
10:55 AM	Ms. Tanya Tracy George concluded the session.
10:56 AM	Dr. R. Sakthi Prabha appreciated the presenters for taking diverse topics for the paper presentation and also she gave some suggestions to the presenters.
11:02 AM	Felicitation of the chairperson and Dr. S. Sudarmathy thanked and appreciated the presenters
11:03 AM	Parallel session II was concluded.

CHAIRPERSON'S PROFILE

Dr. R. SAKTHI PRABHA, Ph.D



Dr. R Sakthi Prabha, Ph.D is a well-known social work educator, researcher and practitioner based in Chennai, India. She currently serves as the Dean and Head of the Department of Social Work at Hindustan College of Arts and Science, where she is also the Convenor of Institutional Social Responsibility.

Her expertise in the field has also led her to be a visiting scholar at the Department of Social Work at Asia University in Taiwan. Dr. Sakthi Prabha has published and presented research papers at various colleges in India, including Madras School of Social Work, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, and Bharathidasan University. She is a member of the International Association of Schools of Social Work and the Tamilnadu Social Workers Forum. She is also a life member of the National Association of Professional Social Workers India and the Indian Professional Association of Social Workers.

Dr. Sakthi Prabha is an editorial member at the National Journal of Social Workers and the National Institute of Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities in Chennai. In recognition of her humanitarian work, she received the Humanitarian Award from TWELL Magazine in 2020.

Overall, Dr. Sakthi Prabha's extensive experience in the field of social work and her commitment to social responsibility and humanitarian work make her a valuable asset to the profession and the community.

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The chairperson for the session was Dr. R. Sakthi Prabha, Dean and Head of Department, Hindustan College of Arts and Science, Chennai. And the faculty coordinator was Dr. S. Sudarmathy PhD, Asst. Professor, Department of BSW, MSSW welcomed the chief guest to the gathering. Ms. Varsha of I year MSW D&E introduced the chairperson to the gathering. Dr. R. Sakthi Prabha gave general instructions to the presenters to complete their presentation in 7 minutes followed by a question and answer session.

Name of Presenters	Title of the paper	
Dr. Mohd Arif Khan	Supportive Supervision in Health Care Delivery: A model for non-governmental organization	
B. Sofiya and Dr. S. Sangeeta	A Comparative Study of Mental Health Status of Destitute Elderly Women in Old Age Home and in Rural Area in Mayiladuthurai District	
Ganga. P. Sreenivasan and Dr. M. Hilaria Soundari	Psychological Wellbeing of Disabled Women Workers: Insights from the Fibre Crafts Industry of Kerala	
Ms. Aswathy E S; Ms. Anamika Chandran and Ms. Roseme Paul	A Study on The Role of Anganwadis in Improving Health Condition of Women and Children	
Ms.P J Nanditha & Dr. K. Sathyamurthi	Perspectives of Women in Kerala on Menstruation and Menstrual Leave	
Mrs. Kondamudi Sai Sindhuri	Stress faced by Adolescent Girls due to Vaginal Problems- A study from Bapatla - Bapatla District	
Ms.Pavithra P, P J Nanditha and Dr. K Sathyamurthi	Quality of Life of Cancer Patients in Hospice Care in Chennai	
Ms. Hemanandhini V S, Ms. Divinya Scaria and Ms. Aswani B Nair	Holistic well-being of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis	
Ms.Tanya Tracy George and Dr. T Kavitha	Study on the Well-being and the Psycho Social effect of Bullying among Young Adults in Chennai	

PAPER PRESENTERS DURING PANEL II





CONCLUSION

Dr. R. Sakthi Prabha, the Chairperson, praised the presenters for covering a diverse range of topics during their paper presentations, and also provided suggestions to help the presenters improve their work. And the chairperson was felicitated by Dr. S. Sudarmathy PhD. Ms. Tanya Tracy George concluded parallel session 2 of the paper presentation.



TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION
9.25 AM	Ms. Tarunya S (MSW Shift II) presented the welcome address
9.26 AM	Profile Reading by Ms. Thamayanthi (MSW Shift I)
9.27 AM	Presentation on "Community Social Work: Education and Practice in Kerala" by Dr. Mini KP and Dr. K. Sathyamurthi
9.44 AM	Presentation on "Field Work Practices in Social Work: Challenges and Prospects" by Mr. Mohammed Uzair
9.56 AM	Presentation on "A Study on Social Workers working in Correctional Settings and the Challenges they face" by Ms. Mishael A and Dr. Bailey Vincent
10.09 AM	Presentation on "School Social Work: Forgotten Tool of Social Work Practice" by M Manuel Joshua and Mr. Sridhar R
10.21 AM	Presentation on "A Perception of School Teachers of Chennai in Adopting Gender-neutral Uniforms for school students" by Ms. Grace Santhosh, Ms. Mercy Biana Rebeckal P and Aswani B Nair
10.35 AM	Presentation on "A Study on the Perception of Post Graduate Social Work Students on Commercial Sex Work" by Ms. Sulagna Chakraborty and Mr. Jasper D.
10.56 AM	Felicitation of Chairperson Dr. S Sangeetha by Ms. Priya Doris
10.57 AM	Ending Remarks by Dr. S Sangeetha

CHAIRPERSON'S PROFILE

Dr. S SANGEETHA, Ph.D



Dr. S. Sangeeta, Ph.D is an accomplished academician with 18 years of experience in teaching and research. She is currently serving as the Head of the Department of Social Work at Tamilnadu University, Thanjavur.

Dr. Sangeeta is specialized in the areas of social work (HRM), women and child issues, and elderly issues. Her research work has been published in several prestigious journals and presented at national and international conferences. She is also a active member of the National Institute of Personnel Management in New Delhi, which demonstrates her commitment to continuous learning and professional development.

In addition to her teaching and research roles, Dr. Sangeeta has been an IQAC member since 2017. IQAC stands for Internal Quality Assurance Cell, and it is a committee that ensures quality assurance in higher education institutions in India. As an IQAC member, Dr. Sangeeta plays a vital role in maintaining and enhancing the quality of education at Tamilnadu University.

Dr. Sangeeta's contribution to the field of social work has been recognized with a best service award, which highlights her dedication to the profession and her commitment to making a positive impact on society. Overall, Dr. S. Sangeeta is an accomplished academician and researcher with a broad range of expertise and a strong commitment to advancing the field of social work.

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The paper presentation (Parallel Session III) began at 9.25 am with a welcome address by Ms. Tarunya and Ms. Thamayanthi introduced the profile of the Chairperson for the session. There were six paper presenters for the session. The theme for the paper presentation was "Social Work Education and Pratice."

Name of Presenters	Title of the paper	
Dr. Mini K P and Dr. K Sathaymurthi	Community Social Work: Education and Practice in Kerala	
Mr. Mohd Uzair	Field Work Practice in Social Work: Challenges and Prospects	
Ms. Mishael A	A Study on Social Workers Working in Correctional Settings and The Challenges They Face	
Mr. M Manuel Joshua and Sridhar R	School Social Work: The Forgotten Tool of Social Work Practice	
Ms. Sulagna Chakraborty and Jasper D	A Study on the Perception of Post Graduate Social Work Students on Commercial Sex Work	
Grace Santosh, Mercy Briamma and Aswani B Nair	Perception of School Teachers of Chennai in adopting Gender-Neutral Uniforms for School Students	





CONCLUSION

The Chairperson Dr. S Sangeetha was felicitated by Ms. Priya Doris. Dr. S Sangeetha summarized the 6 papers that were presented. She stated that as social workers we have the duty to transform society. She expressed her conviction that the deliberations that had taken place will serve the purpose of the conference. She ended the session by thanking Dr. K Sathyamurthi and the team for hosting a wonderful two-day international conference.

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION
9.24 a.m	The MC welcomed the gathering
9.26 a.m	Ms. Sathyapriya welcomed the chairperson to share a few words and to instruct the presenters with the rules and guidelines
9.27 a.m.	Dr. Pradeep, Chairperson, addressed the gathering
9.38 a.m	Presentation on "Journey of Kurichiya Tribe to Social Justice: A social work perspective" by Mr. Pranoy
9.47 a.m	Presentation on "Social work and LGBTQ+ Community - Inclusion and Diversity" by Ms. George Anitha D
9.57 am	Presentation on "Teachers' perceptions of inclusive education of children with disablility" by Ms. Anisha
10.11 am	Presentation on "Migrant workers and human rights violation" by Mr. Bhat Mohammad
10.19 am	Presentation on "Visible yet invisible labourers: status of women street vendors in Northeast region of India" by Mr. Imnayangla Jamir
10.31 am	Presentation on "Curbing child marriage: an insight into praxis, policies and practices in Tamil Nadu" by Ms. Gayatri Menon and Mr. S. Varunanvelu
10.43 am	Presentation on "A study on the factors affecting residential satisfaction of people resettled to Perumbakkam resettlement tenements in the year 2017" by Ms. Vidhya Vinayaki A
10. 54 am	Presentation on "A Qualitative Study on Contemporary Issues Faced by The Elderly: Implication Of Social Work Practice" by Ms. Indhumathi S
11.01 am	Presentation on "Challenges faced by the entrepreneurs with disability" by Ms. Aswani Bhuvandran Nair
11.10 am	Presentation on "Impact of rehabilitation on rescued bonded labourers in Thiruvallur district: Survivors perspective" by A Soloman
11.17 am	Ms. Sathya thanked the presenter and called Dr. Kavitha for felicitating the chairperson
11.18 am	Felicitation of the Chairperson
11.19 am	Dr. Pradeep, Chairperson thanked the presenters and appreciated the diversity of topics which were presented in the paper presentation, he also provided several suggestions in the methodology and analysis part of the research.
11.25 am	Ms. Sathyapriya thanked the chairperson, faculty incharge and the presenters.
11.26 am	Session concluded

CHAIRPERSON'S PROFILE

Dr. PRADEEP P N



Dr. Pradeep P N has a diverse educational and professional background, with a Ph.D. in Social Work from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, a Masters in Social Work from Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala, and a Master of Business Administration from MS University Tirunelveli. He also holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application from IHRD, Edapilly, Kerala.

With 15 years of industrial experience, Dr. Pradeep has a strong background in business and management. He has also attended various seminars, workshops, and training sessions, including the Direct Trainer Skill (DTS) Course and Design of Trainer (DoT) Course by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Govt. of India under the Trainer Development Programme (TDP).

Dr. Pradeep's research interests focus on social entrepreneurship as a domain of social work practice with special reference to Kerala. His academic background and professional experience suggest that he has a broad range of knowledge and s kills that can contribute significantly to the field of social entrepreneurship and social work practice.

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

On 3_{M} March 2023, Dr. Pradeep, Chairperson, addressed the gathering at 9.27 am and quoted Ms. Medha Patkar's speech to emphasize the core values of social work. He highlighted the human rights of the United Nations and talked about the fundamentals of human rights, including economic, social, political, and educational freedom. He also emphasized the environmental rights that a community possesses, as well as equity, equality, and caste discrimination.

Dr. Pradeep firmly accepted the concept which Ms. Medha Patkar proposed in the inaugural ceremony of the conference, that all professional social workers must undergo a minimal period of one year field work after the completion of their degree in social work. He also insisted on the new concept of social work entrepreneurship among the gathering.

Dr. Pradeep concluded his speech by instructing the presenters that they would be given 5 minutes for presentation and 2 minutes for question-and-answer sessions about the presentation, due to time constraints.

Name of Presenters	Title of the paper	
Mr. Pranoy	Journey of Kurichiya Tribe to Social Justice:A social work perspective	
Ms. George Anitha D	Social work and LGBTQ+ Community - Inclusion and Diversity	
Ms. Anisha	Teachers' perceptions of inclusive education of children with disability	
Mr. Bhat Mohammad Salman	Migrant workers and human rights violation	
Mr. Imnayangla Jamir	Visible yet invisible labourers: status of women street vendors in Northeast region of India	

Ms. Gayatri Menon and Mr. V.S. Varunanvelu	Curbing child marriage: an insight into praxis, policies and practices in Tamil Nadu	
Ms. Vidhya Vinayaki A	A study on the factors affecting residential satisfaction of people resettled to Perumbakkam resettlement tenements in the year 2017	
Ms. Indhumathi S	A Qualitative Study on Contemporary Issues Faced by The Elderly: Implication of Social Work Practice	
Ms. Aswani Bhuvandran Nair	Challenges faced by the entrepreneurs with disability	
Mr. A Soloman	Impact of rehabilitation on rescued bonded labourers in Thiruvallur district: Survivors perspective	

PAPER PRESENTERS DURING PANEL I







CONCLUSION

At 11.17am, Ms. Sathya had thanked the presenter and called Dr. Kavitha to felicitate the chairperson. Dr. Pradeep, Chairperson had thanked the presenters and appreciated the diversity of topics which were presented in the paper presentation. He had also provided several suggestions in the methodology and analysis part of the research. Dr. Kavitha, Assistant Professor, MSSW felicitated the chairperson.



Ms. Sathyapriya, thanked the chairperson, faculty in charge, and the presenters and conclueded the parallel session 4 of paper presentation.



MIME COMPETITION

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION
10.26 AM	Welcome Address and introduction of Mr. Sudhan, Actor and Trainer by the Master of ceremony (MC) Ms.Sethulakshmi (MSW – Shift I)
10.28 AM	Mime performance by MSW students of Sri Krishna arts and science college, Coimbatore on the topic "Inclusiveness of the LGBTQ+ community" specifying the Transgenders
10.38 AM	Feedback by the chief guest Mr.Sudhan
10.39 AM	Felicitation of the chief guest by Mr.Vasanth, Assistant Professor Department of social work Shift-2
10.40 AM	Chief guest Mr.Sudhan felicitated the participants with a cheque of Rs.1000
10.42 AM	Vote of thanks by Ms. Sethulakshmi

JUDGE'S PROFILE

MR. S. SUTHAN



Mr. S. Suthan is a multi-talented personality who has excelled in various fields of his interest. He has a successful acting career, is an actor trainer, and has earned a Guinness World Record for his remarkable performance. He is also trained in folk art and street art and has used his platform to promote and preserve these art forms. His dedication, passion, and talent have made him a true inspiration to many.

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REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Mime competition was conducted as part of the International Conference on 3[™] March 2023 from 10.28 AM to 10.42 AM. The event was graced by the chief guest, Mr. Sudhan. Approximately 65 individuals attended the competition, where a team of 8 members from Sri Krishna Arts and Science College, Coimbatore performed on the theme of Inclusiveness of the LGBTQ+ community, with a specific focus on the Transgender community. The Master of Ceremonies for the event was Ms. Sethulakshmi from MSW Shift-1.



DESCRIPTION OF THE MIME: The mime performance began with a celebration of the birth of a boy child by two couples who felt pride for giving birth to a boy child. The scene then shifted to the boy joining school and falling in love with classical dance (bharatanatyam), which he learned and practiced. He performed for his mother, who encouraged him and appreciated his talent. However, as the boy grew up, he faced humiliation from society for pretending to act like a girl. He liked to wear ornaments like earrings, bindi, saree, etc., which his father and mother did not approve of. When his mother saw him acting like a girl, she informed his father, and they both humiliated him and threw him into a room. The boy managed to escape from his house and took refuge on the platforms of the road.



While on the road, two strangers tried to bully and misbehave with him. At that point, another stranger intervened and saved him from them. They reported the incident and handed him over to a home where they respected his hormonal changes and helped him transform into a woman. The home also ensured that the boy received an education.

The mime performance highlighted the struggles faced by the transgender community in society. It portrayed how people with different sexual orientations are often bullied and humiliated by society, which can lead to depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues. The performance also showed how important it is for society to be inclusive of people from different backgrounds and sexual orientations. It emphasized the need for education and awareness among people about the LGBTQ+ community.



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The performance was well-received by the audience. The participants from Sri Krishna Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, consisting of eight members, put up an excellent performance on the theme of inclusiveness of the LGBTQ+ community, specifically the transgender community. The chief guest, Mr. Sudhan, appreciated the performance and highlighted the need for society to be more accepting and inclusive of the LGBTQ+ community. The Master of Ceremony, Ms. Sethulakshmi of MSW Shift-1, kept the audience engaged throughout the performance. The mime competition for the International Conference was held at the TAG Auditorium between 10.28 AM-10.42 AM



ADDRESS BY THE PARTICIPANTS: After the conclusion of the mime performance on the theme of inclusiveness of the LGBTQ+ community, one of the participants addressed the gathering. She introduced herself as a social work student and expressed her heartfelt desire to open a shelter home for abandoned members of the LGBTQ+ community. She mentioned that her inspiration for this idea came from an NGO called Maruviyam.

The participant emphasized that the LGBTQ+ community often face neglect, humiliation, and discrimination in our society, which leads them to feel abandoned and hopeless. She stated that they need a safe and secure place where they can live with dignity and respect. She expressed her willingness to work towards achieving this goal and hoped to inspire others to join her in this noble cause.

Name of the Participants:

- 1. S. Arvin Krishna
- 2. M. Veerakumar
- 3. C. Adithya Prarthana
- 4. C. Manoranjitham
- 5. R. Mega Varshini
- 6. P. Evangelin Mabel
- 7. A. Kevin Hirithik Roshan
- 8. G. Loga Sowndarya

ADDRESS BY THE CHIEF GUEST: After the completion of the mime performance, Mr. Sudhan, the chief guest of the event, provided feedback on the performance. He highlighted the significance of the emerging issue of inclusiveness of the LGBTQ+ community and appreciated the concept portrayed in the mime. Mr. Sudhan also mentioned the increasing popularity of mime in Paris, London, and now Chennai.



He further suggested that the quality of the concept could be improved and emphasized the importance of creating a powerful impact through such performances. He commended the participants for their efforts and stated that the concept was easily understandable for the audience. Overall, Mr. Sudhan's feedback motivated the participants to continue their efforts towards spreading awareness on social issues through mime. **FELICITATION:** Mr. Sudhan, was felicitated by Professor Vasanth from the Department of Social Work, Shift-2. This was followed by the felicitation of the students who participated in the mime competition. The chief guest presented them with a cheque worth Rs.1000 as a token of appreciation for their outstanding performance.



The felicitation ceremony was a moment of great pride and honor for the students who received the award. It was also a recognition of their hard work, dedication, and talent. The chief guest's presence and his appreciation for the performance further motivated the students to pursue their passion for mime and to create awareness on emerging social issues through the art form.



Overall, the ceremony was a memorable experience for everyone involved, and it served as a reminder of the importance of recognizing and appreciating the efforts of young talents.

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PANEL DISCUSSION SESSION

TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION
11.18 A.M	Arrival of dignitaries to the auditorium
11.20 A.M	Welcoming the Chief guests and other dignitaries
11.24 A.M	Profile reading of the speakers by Meghna S (BSW)
11. 26 AM	The profile of Thiru. Dillibabu Krishnan was read by Ms. Shobana (MSW Aided)
11:59 PM	The chairperson of the panel Dr. K.Sathyamurthi welcomed Thiru. Dillibabu
11.34 AM	Introduction of speaker Dr. K.R. Anish Ph.D, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kerala.
11.35 AM	Powerpoint presentation on Social Work Education, Research and Practices – a way forward
11.50 AM	Dr.K. Anish concluded his speech.
11.50 AM	Introduction of Dr. Shanmuga Velayutham, PhD, Former Professor, Loyola College, Chennai by Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, Convenor
11.50 AM	Dr. Shanmuga Velayutham began his address
12:00 PM	The panellist joined the debate on whether social workers should be called as 'professional social workers' or 'social workers'
12.10 PM	Dr Sigamani briefed about his profile and started his session
12. 25 PM	Dr. Sigamani concluded his session
12.27 PM	Q & A Session to Dr. Shanmuga Velayutham by the participants of the panel discussion.
12.30 PM	Panel discussion was concluded

SPEAKER'S PROFILE

Dr. K.R. ANISH, Ph.D



Dr Anish has expertise of 22 years in the field of social work practice, research and teaching. He is an assistant professor in Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. He has served as Head of the Department of Social Work from 2016-2019. Previously, he worked as Senior Lecturer and Head of the School of Social Work at Marian College Kuttikkanam. He has been an exchange faculty to University of Utah, USA. He offers his consultancy and training services in the areas of Research Methodology and SPSS, Counselling, CSR, Monitoring and Evaluation of projects to National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), KSACS, Karnataka SACS, UPSACS, National Health Mission (NHM), Human dynamic Asia Pacific (EAP provider), State Council for Education, Research and Training (SCERT), State Institute of Education Management and Training (SIEMAT), Kerala Judicial Academy, Kudumbashree Mission, Federal Bank, NTPC, KPSC, Christ University etc. He serves as Chairman of Board of Studies (Social Work) of MG University, Kannur University, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous). He is a Member of Board of Studies (Social Work) of the Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Vimala College, Assumption College, St Alberts College, Christ College. He also serves as the Vice President of the Association of Schools of Social Work in Kerala (ASSK) and Kerala Association of Professional Social Workers (KAPS).

Dr. SHANMUGA VELAYUTHAM, Ph.D



Dr. K. Shanmuga Velayutham (popularly called 'SV') was born on First May Nineteen Fifty-Three. He is at present a practicing Advocate in Madras High Court. He was former Professor of Social Work in Loyola College, Chennai. He pursued M.A Social Work from Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya Arts College, Periyanaickenpalayam in the year 1977 (First Batch of Social Work 1975-1977). He also has a Postgraduate degree in Social Work, Education, Psychology, Management disciplines and BA in Law. He earned his M.Phil. at Delhi University and awarded Ph.D. in Social Work at Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi. He was the President of the Professional Social Workers' Forum. At present he is the State Convenor of Tamil Nadu Forces- a network of Child Rights organizations. He is the Managing Trustee of Foundation for Rights of Young Child (an NGO working for the Child Rights) and Executive Director of Legal Resource Centre for Child Rights and State Convenor of Tamil Nadu People's Mental Health Forum (TNPMHF) and Managing Trustee of Odhuvar Welfare Trust. At present he is concentrating on development of Ariyalur District (Most backward District in Tamil Nadu) through Friends of Ariyalur District. Besides being an author of 40 books and over 100 research papers, he received awards twice from the Government of Tamil Nadu for author of the prize-winning book in the Social Sciences field. He guided eleven Ph.D scholars and 40 M. Phil students.

Thiru. DILLIBABU KRISHNAN



Thiru. Dillibabu Krishnan, a member of the proposed Tamil Nadu Professional Social Work Council (TNPSWC) steering committee, shared his educational and field expertise with the participants during the panel discussion on Social Work Education, Research and Practice. Mr. Krishnan is also a CSR consultant and legal advisor, with a strong background in CSR, administration, legal and HR. He constantly works with the government, public and private sectors, IAS, legal heads, CEOs, and CFOs. Mr. Krishnan's academic qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in Economics, a Master's degree in Social Work, and a Master's degree in Law. He also worked as a senior consultant at ITCOT Consultancy and Services Ltd.

Mr. SIGAMANI PANEER



Dr. Sigamani Panneer is a Professor and Head, Department of Social Work; School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Coordinator, Centre for Happiness and Ex. Coordinator, Department of Applied Psychology, School of Behavioural Sciences, Central University of Tamil Nadu. He has been a visiting professor at the School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, USA; Tianjin University of Finance and Economics, China; Jishou University, China and Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur, India. He has authored articles of national and international repute published by Macmillan, Sage, Springer, Wiley, Elsevier, BMC, Bloomsbury, Economic and Political Weekly and Cambridge Scholars etc

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Panel discussion for day 2 (03.03.2023) started at 11.20 AM which dealt with the "Social Work Education, Research and Practice- Way forward". The discussion happened in the TAG auditorium. The Chairperson for the session Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, Head of the Department, Department of Social Work, Aided, Madras School of Social Work. The other speakers for the day are Dr. K.R. Anish, Dr. Shanmuga Velayutham, Thiru Dillibabu Krishnan, Dr. Sigamani Panner. Around 150 people participated in the session and Masters of the ceremony were Ms. Farsain and Ms. Bhumika, Students, MSW (D&E). The main purpose of the meeting is to inculcate the social work research and different practices that have been followed in the field of social work.

SPEAKER: Dr. K.R. Anish Questions to students:

The speaker initiated a discussion by asking the audience to reflect on the current status of the social work profession in the country since its inception and its significant growth over the years.

G.R.O.W Aspect



The speaker introduced an approach called G.R.O.W, which stands for Goal, Reality, Opportunities, and Way Forward. This approach was used to frame the discussion and explore various aspects of professional social work.

Goals of Social work

The speaker emphasized the importance of establishing a professional identity, gaining recognition and credibility, acquiring primary competencies and skills, and exploring career prospects. The speaker also asserted that having well-defined goals will help to maintain focus and achieve better outcomes.

Reality of Contemporary Social work

Dr. Anish, presented an overview of the current state of social work, highlighting the importance of recognizing the profession and establishing a profession al identity. They also emphasized the need for social work to provide effective solutions to social issues, and addressed the public's misconceptions about trained versus untrained social workers and their perception of the profession.

In addition, the speaker discussed several important issues that need to be addressed, such as standardizing professional practice, balancing indigenization, Indianization, and glocalization approaches, and avoiding Eurocentrism, Indocentrism, and Globocentrism. The speaker also touched on the increasing number of social work schools, curriculum development and transactions, and research publications.

Opportunities:

The Speaker provided an overview of different professional forums that exist to promote and support social work. Additionally, the Speaker recommended that attention be directed towards certain areas, such as the National Education Policy (NEP), the Right to Education (RTE) Act, the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) initiatives, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Way Forward:

The speaker provided a list of recommended actions to be taken, including the accreditation of social work programs, the establishment of a competency framework, and the formation of a National Council for Social Work Education.

Future Of Social Work Education:

The speaker emphasized the need to shift the focus of the curriculum from being content-oriented to practice-oriented. This includes promoting interactions between academia and the field, providing continuous professional education, and purposeful engagement in field action projects.



Research Engagement and Practice:

The session ended with a discussion on research engagement and its contribution to academic development and knowledge expansion in social work. The key takeaways were the importance of collaboration, validated research practices, the incorporation of indigenous models, and technological innovations such as AI in practice. The speaker concluded the session by quoting George Eliot, "It is never too late to be who you might have been." The session concluded at approximately 11:50 PM.

Conclusion:



In this session, the speaker discussed several key aspects related to social work education and its validity. The speaker emphasized the need to continually improve social work education to ensure that it remains relevant and effective in addressing contemporary social issues. The G.R.O.W. model was introduced as a useful framework for improving social work education, focusing on four key aspects: Goals, Reality, Options, and Will. The speaker emphasized the importance of setting clear goals and objectives for social work education, assessing the current reality of the field, exploring various options for improvement, and building the necessary will and commitment to implement changes. The speaker also outlined the broader goals and vision of social work, including promoting social justice, empowering individuals and communities, and advocating for marginalized populations. However, the reality of contemporary social work often falls short of these goals, with challenges such as funding cuts, limited resources, and a complex political landscape. To address these challenges he emphasized the need for macro-level action steps, including advocating for policy changes, promoting community organizing and empowerment, and engaging in crossdisciplinary collaborations.

Finally, the importance of research engagement and practice was highlighted as a key area for advancing social work education and promoting evidence-based practice. The speaker emphasized the need for social workers to be actively engaged in research activities, as well as to stay abreast of current research findings and best practices.

SPEAKER: Thiru Dillibabu Krishnan

Need for a Council for Social Work Profession



The session began with the Master of Ceremonies, welcoming all the panellists of the panel discussion. Ms. Shobana introduced the panellist, Dr. Anish,

Dr. K. Sathyamurthi, the chair of the panel informed the participants that Thiru. Dillibabu Krishnan will be sharing information that the participants will love. After which, Thiru. Dillibabu Krishnan greeted the participants and shared that he was privileged to be at the conference. He began by stating that he was only a representative of the work carried out for TNPSWC Bill and that an entire team including the research and consultancy division of MSSW has been working in the background. Then he joined the debate of whether to say 'professional social worker' or 'social worker'. He said, "I started my career in 1996 in social and I also proudly used to say 'professional social worker', 'professional social worker' but after I started my legal journey I never said 'I am professional lawyer', 'I am a professional advocate'. I never say it. Then I started thinking about why I kept on saying 'professional social worker.' So, there is a gap." He made his point that social workers need not use 'professional' as a prefix since we a social worker by nature is a professional like doctors and lawyers. He shared that he has met social workers who are underpaid for longer periods compared to other professionals with the same caliber. He mentioned that there was no proper regulation in terms of provision of salary for social workers. He asked if the problem was with the curriculum or institution or skill set.



Thiru. Dillibabu Krishnan pointed out that every other profession has a council that guides its practice and that in most of the countries where social work is being practiced, councils for social work profession have been formed, except for India. He also shared the legal issues causing the delay of this TNPSWC proposal to be accepted and processed. The panellist listed the legislations that clearly mention the role of social worker in the respective field of work: Section 49 in The Factories Act, 1948 (Welfare Officer); Section 6 in The Family Courts Act, 1984 (Counsellor); Section 4 in The Juvenile Justice [Care and Protection of Children] Act, 2015 (Social Worker); Section 43 in The Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 (Psychiatric Social Worker); Section 29 in the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Rules, 2014 (Transplant Coordinator); Schedule 7 in the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Act, 2021 (Clinical Social Worker, Psychiatric Social Worker, Medical Social Worker). He noted how social workers with different specialisations must come under the same umbrella and have one professional body or council and that we must have Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for effective practice of the profession.

The panellist also stated that the COVID-19 pandemic made people realise and recognise the importance and role of social workers in the community. He said that social workers have the skills and tools for effective practice but only lack proper definition of their role. He mentioned that MSSW has been a pioneer in the field and that the institution has played a major role in the proposal of TNPSWC. He concluded the session by assuring the participants that he will share the results of the proposed TNPSWC in the next meeting. He finished by stating, *"If it is coined as a profession, it should be defined, it should be measurable."*. With that the chair of the panel, Dr. K. Sathyamurthi took over the session.



Conclusion:

Throughout the presentation, Thiru. Dillibabu Krishnan highlighted the lack of recognition and regulation of the social work profession in India. He emphasized that social work is a noble profession that requires specialized skills, knowledge, and values. However, the absence of a regulatory body to oversee the education, training, and practice of social workers has resulted in the proliferation of untrained and unqualified individuals offering social work services, which can lead to harm to the vulnerable populations they serve.

Thiru. Dillibabu Krishnan proposed the creation of a Council for Social Work Profession in India, which would be responsible for regulating the education, training, and practice of social workers. The Council would establish minimum standards for social work education and training programs, set ethical standards and guidelines for social work practice, and monitor the quality of social work services provided to the public.

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SPEAKER: DR. Shanmuga Velayutham

The Chairperson provided an introduction to the speaker and highlighted his work in Professional Social Work and Thirukkural. The speaker began his speech at 11:48 AM by expressing his gratitude towards the organizers of the International Conference and mentioning his association with the Platinum Jubilee celebration of MSSW.

The speaker acknowledged the previous speaker's discussion on Indigenous social work and suggested the existence of an alternative model for it. The speaker then mentioned about the Global Definition of Social Work Profession 2014 that "Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work. Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous knowledges, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing.

The speaker mentioned about the local and culture relevant based social work that was practiced in 1975 when the speaker joined Social work and it has become 47 years now but still the same pattern is followed today and no significant changes made still now.

Indigenous social work model

The speaker then mentioned about the indigenous social work especially the "Thirukkural based social work model", stated that he is a local Tamilian who is concerned about Tamil Language, culture, literature, etc., but most of the students, social work practitioners, educators are not aware about our own significance of literature.

Thirukkural is a sacred literary text which is also considered as 'Tamil Veda'. It has more than 2000 years old literature. On the contrary, students are not aware there are about 100 translations that are available in English. 750 Commentaries including Former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu M. Karunanidhi, Solomon Pappaiah and many more have given interpretations about Thirukkural. More than 43 languages are translated into Thirukkural. The speaker pitched a question that today social workers are concerned about Indigenous Thirukkural model of social work. The importance of it where the Tamil Nadu Government declared Thiruvalluvar day as a holiday which is celebrated throughout Tamil Nadu. It also has Thirukkural way of life, Thirukkural way of marriage, more than 50 NGOs practicing Thirukkural based Social work and these practicing people are away from the mainstream people. People should practice 'Thirukkural based social work' which is aligned with the culture.



Thirukkural model of social work

There are about 133 chapters which have 1330 couplets and have various divisions. The main emphasis is the 'Virtue of Righteousness' which is called 'Aram' in Tamil. Thirukkural is considered as the 'Book of Virtue'. In that so many couplets are related to individuals' life and family, all the aspects have been mentioned.

Compared to Madhisuthan from DG Vaishnav college prepared 3 chapters on social work and published and on the other hand Bharathiar University had a Ph.D. on mental health social work, and Bharathidasan had a Ph.D. on Life skill in Thirukkural. There are more than 5 Ph.D in management principles. But today the Indigenous model has not been followed by the social workers so where is the problem in incorporating the principles of Thirukkural in case work, group work.

He then mentioned the promotion of 'Relatives' and it is one of the chapters. There are 2 ways Thirukkural has given to promote the relatives are,

- 1. By Giving
- 2. Speaking of pleasant words

By following these two things we can maintain a good relationship with our relatives. The 4 components are based on Thirukkural social work model are,

• Individual based Thirukkural social work

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- Family based Thirukkural social work
- Community based Thirukkural social work
- State based Thirukkural social work

The speaker stated that he doesn't use the word 'Professional social work' since he had contradictions in that so he used 'social work'. In social work 'charity' is considered as a derogatory term. In our society there are more than 12,000 temples where they provide 'Annadhanam' that is giving of food is an important component. Most of the social workers consider that charity, Annadhanam, as a derogatory term.



The speaker explained that many social problems are being mentioned in the chapters of Thirukkural. Some of the social problems mentioned are gambling in chapter-94, prostitution in chapter- 92, liquor addiction in chapter- 92. More than 2000 years ago they used some of the principles, philosophies about the way of life. Stated that he is concerned why indigenous model has not been followed and practiced in today's life? He stated that we should Rethink our curriculum, rethink our practice, rethink our research and evolve our very own model of social work which will be useful.

Q&A Session

1. The practice of Indigenous social work only if it is practiced Universally and when it is applicable to all it can be called as a model so rather than focusing on our own Indigenous model, this knowledge has to be transformed universally then only we can be called it as professional otherwise it will be called as an Indian model- Reflect on it? Thirukkural based social work model is not only for Tamil Nadu it is Universal. The principles that are stated in Thirukkural are Universal and Global. We have to adapt to this model.

In thirukkural there is a chapter called 'Idukkan aliammai' which mentions that 'If there is a trouble how to overcome that trouble' and there are so many aspects which are mentioned in the Thirukkural. Thirukkural is a Global Literature but the problem is that most of the people follow other western authors whereas since Thirukkural is considered as a local literature people are not accepting it. But Thirukkural values are all universally accepted and can be followed by everyone.

"There is no Pongal without ghee and there is no world without Thirukkural".

Conclusion:

In this session, the speaker discussed several important aspects of social work, including the global definition of social work as outlined in 2014. The speaker also highlighted the importance of the Indigenous social work model and the Thirukkural based social work model. The Thirukkural social work model comprises four main components, which are compassion, honesty, selflessness, and charity. These principles are deeply ingrained in the Thirukkural, which also mentions many social problems and their possible solutions. The speaker emphasized the importance of incorporating these principles into modern-day social work practices to ensure that the needs of the community are met. By adopting a holistic approach and considering the cultural and societal factors that influence social problems, social workers can create meaningful change and improve the lives of those in need. Overall, this session provided valuable insights into the history and principles of social work, and the importance of incorporating these principles into modern-day social work approach and considering the importance of incorporating these insights into the history and principles of social work, and the importance of incorporating these principles into modern-day social work practices.

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SPEAKER: Dr Sigamani Panner

Future generations and social workers

Social workers have the potential to create a positive impact in various areas such as positive job outlook, supply versus demand, technological innovations such as human happiness, trends in job opportunities and salaries, ongoing professional development opportunities, disaster management and response, climate change, humanitarian crisis, and business. Additionally, there is an increasing trend towards corporate social work with global standards, and social workers can play a significant role in this emerging field.



Evidence based practice Vs Eminence-based practice

Dr. Sigamani elaborated on the distinction between evidence-based and eminencebased practice and emphasized the necessity for a paradigm shift in this regard. He highlighted the importance of validity, reliability, and the ability of a systematic approach, including meta-analysis and various forms of evidence. Moreover, addressed the gap between policy and research, its limitations, and strategies to bridge these gaps through knowledge translation to drive change. He stressed the significance of understanding the communication process and engaging multi-stakeholders to facilitate this process. Dr. Sigamani emphasized the need to shift towards evidence-based practice, bridge the gap between policy and research, and engage with multiple stakeholders to achieve positive change in the field of social work.

Lack of transdisciplinary approach

The speaker highlighted the absence of a transdisciplinary approach and identified essential approaches and potential roadblocks that can impede the development of collaborative initiatives. The speaker emphasized that well-developed theoretical frameworks and an accumulation of scientific evidence can only establish strong linkages and provide a vital shared perspective in overcoming institutional and administrative constraints.

Lack of competency-based curriculum

The speaker further elaborated on how the absence of currency can have an impact on the competency-based curriculum in diverse fields such as EI, EQ Vs IQ, New Public Management, and market requirements, among others. The speaker stressed that an outdated curriculum can hinder the solutions to local problems on a global level. Additionally, the speaker drew attention to the emerging global humanitarian emergencies, basic and complex needs of individuals/groups/communities, promoting the rights and empowerment of vulnerable populations, and the implications on society, economy, and development.

Lack of Leadership Succession Plan

The speaker emphasized that the absence of a succession plan in social workers can result in several challenges and problems. Therefore, the speaker suggested the need for a leadership succession plan with implications in nonprofit leadership transition plans, organizational survival patterns, leadership development, and training programs. The speaker also emphasized that the lack of a succession plan can lead to a decline in the quality of students and have an impact on research practice.

Risk Factors Associated with Covid-19

The speaker also discussed the risk factors associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and highlighted the significant role of social workers during this time. The speaker pointed out that social workers have played a crucial role in various areas such as remote control, child health, maternal and newborn health, management of communicable diseases, chemical incidents, radiation emergencies, mass casualty management, nutrition, sexual and reproductive health, trauma care, water, sanitation, and hygiene. Additionally, the speaker highlighted that social workers have been involved in addressing the economic impact of the pandemic, such as the plight of the informal sector, fear of losing jobs, pay cuts, time-bound project completion, lack of interpersonal relationships, and lack of data and adequate information.

Industrialised Economies

In his concluding remarks, the speaker discussed different industrialized economies around the world and their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. He mentioned Canada, which has a well-functioning federalism and long-term care, France, which closed non-essential public places and services, Germany, which developed reliable testing, and Italy, which had institutional arrangements to fight against the virus. He also talked about Japan's effective implementation of self-discipline, New Zealand's lockdown measures to safeguard healthcare professionals, Sweden's undermined coordinated national action, the United Kingdom's research mitigation efforts, and the United States' ineffective response to the pandemic.

Conclusion



He concluded on a note that Development crisis are on the rise and it's time for every social worker to care in order to make a future of global development by implementing pragmatic and innovative approaches to deal with humanitarian crisis, developing strong linkages between strategic partners and with the help of Strong institutional and legal framework needed in order to build sustainable society

In this session, Dr. Sigamani highlighted the crucial role of social workers in conserving future generations by addressing various social issues. He emphasized the importance

of evidence-based practice over eminence-based practice, and highlighted the lack of a transdisciplinary approach towards collaborative initiatives in social work.

Dr. Sigamani also discussed the need for a competency-based curriculum to maintain the integrity of the social work profession. He emphasized the importance of leadership succession plans in bringing about effective interventions.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Sigamani discussed the risks faced by social workers and the ways they could contribute towards solving the problems faced by society. He also highlighted various industrialized economies around the globe and how development crises are on the rise.

On a holistic view, the session shed light on the challenges faced by social workers and the need for a collaborative approach towards addressing social issues. Dr. Sigamani's insights and recommendations provided a valuable perspective on the role of social workers in shaping the future of global development.

Conclusion of the session

In India, the social work profession has been evolved over 87 years in addressing the needs of the human kind by the way of reforming in social, cultural and economic aspects. With existence of social work profession, our college Madras School of Social Work is commemorating its platinum jubilee, which is 70 years of social work service to the society also, to evaluate our contribution towards the continuous commitment to the society. This session was a way forward to share knowledge on various social work fields for the betterment of our contribution to the humanity.











TIME	DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION
12:45 PM	Valedictory session began
12:46 PM	Dr. K Sathyamurthi welcomed the chief guest Prof. Sanjay Bhat, NAPSWI
	& Professor, Delhi University, India
12:47 PM	Prof. Sanjay Bhat addressed the gathering
1:00 PM	Prof. Sanjay Bhatt ended his address
1:01 PM	Prof. Sanjay Bhatt was felicitated by Dr. Francis
1:03 PM	Prof. Sanjay Bhatt was felicitated with a memento by Dr. S Raja Samuel
1:04 PM	Introduction of Prof. Manohar Pawar, PhD, Charles Sturt University,
	Australia
1:06 PM	Special Address by Prof. Manohar Pawar
1:32 PM	Conference report by Dr. P. Amuthalakshmi
1:39 PM	Student's Feedback about the 2 days Conference
1:44 PM	Vote of thanks by Dr. Thirumagal, Program Head and Assistant Professor
	(BSW)
1:49 PM	Student feedback session
1:50 PM	National Anthem and conclusion of Valedictory

SPEAKER'S PROFILE

PROF. SANJAI BHATT, Ph.D



Prof. Sanjai Bhatt, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work; and Hon. Director for Centre for Children and Adolescent Wellbeing has more than three decades of experience in diverse field related to Social Work such as Social Work education, development consultancy and human rights advocacy. Committed to bridging the gaps between social work education and practice, he experiments with different teaching methodologies, engages himself in research in welfare and development fields and works with grass root organisations.

Dr. Bhatt is associated with a number of social movements and civil society organizations in various capacities. He is currently Vice President of National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) and founded advocacy group, Public Advocacy Initiative for Rights and Values in India (PAIRVI) working for human rights and social justice. He is an International Committee member of NGO Forum on Asian Development Bank since April 2004. He joined as a faculty at the Department of Social Work, University of Delhi in 1993 and from 2008 to 2011 he was the head of the department. He has published ten books under various publishers and has written several articles in renowned journals. He has also been the plenary speaker for various national and international conferences.

REPORT

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS



Prof. Sanjai Bhatt, Ph.D., Vice President, NAPSWI & Prof, Delhi University, India

Dr. Bhatt initiated his talk at 12.47 PM, stating that it was always a privilege to talk about Social Work Education and that Social Work is his first love, followed by his wife who also belongs to the Social Work fraternity. He stated that he has heard many comments on the discipline. The social work professions face various obstacles, weaknesses and challenges which needs to be addressed and worked upon.

He said that as doctors work for health, nurses work for care, social workers work for human relation. In the process of growing up, we should not lose the value of human relation. Dignity and worth of individual. He stated that the core components of social work, community and identity needs to be formed in Social Work Education, but it should not be lost in the process of evolution or growing up, substantiating to the words spoken by Dr. Sigamani Panneer.

He stated that a vital value of Social Work is the importance of human relationship. He talked about one of the themes of the Conference – Equity. Though equity and equality are synonymously used, they have minor differences. He stated it through the use of an example – considering four individuals who are hungry and a bread is divided into all

four of them equally, which is equality. Equity, to him, is a much better concept and one which

is more vital to social work, where the bread is given to the individuals according to their requirement or need. He stated that the principle of equality or equity can never be left out of social work. "As a student, work out your own definitions which fit your content, whether it is the concept of social change, social development or social work. You don't require the definitions of Friedlander or others, but your own definitions – definitions which fit your context" – this was his suggestion to the students.

He mentioned that social work comprises two things – the question of "why" and the question of "how". The question of why looks into the science or logic or reasoning part (why social workers should follow principles, why a certain theory is followed etc.) and the question of how to look into the field level implications (how to implement a programme or how to do an intervention). He stated that if the students are able to truly amalgamate the why and how, no one will be able to step them down.

Dr. Bhatt was an instrumental member during the Chipko Movement and it was through the movement where he learned the definition of 'development' for the first time. During the movement, one of the women with whom he interacted, he stated that development meant 'what simplifies her work and improves her day-to-day functioning, that is development for her and the quality of my life.



He stated that all components of social work are interconnected. Social work is the only subject which has more than 15 subjects taught within it, which makes it a unique

discipline. He stated that there are 526 schools of social work in India as per All India Survey of Higher Education. Dr. Bhatt stated that the social work profession is still facing

the problem of a professional identity. He asked the audience if they would just focus on their own job after getting employed or contribute back to the social work profession. He mentioned that he has been putting in effort towards organising the Social Work fraternity since 2005. He was instrumental in starting the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India, through which various efforts was taken up to promote professional social work. In India, more than 1 lakh students take admission in an academic year in social work and yet the representation of them in social work associations is very low. He stated that India has four National Associations and 25 State Associations in Social Work, but the outcomes of these are not cohesive.

He stated that the social workers are fighting outside and not where the issue is to be looked into, which is internal. He stated this through a statement that "*You are inside the house but the fire brigade is outside*".

He asked the participants whether they have the satisfaction of doing something that their teachers taught, which he has, and whether they are able to solve their own problems, as social work looks into problem solving at the base. He also mentioned that humans generally do not like criticisms and the profession, somewhere, creates the notion of not growing up because of not accepting the internal criticisms.



He firmly affirmed that he envisions a future of social work with more wings and which won't die down because of any problems. He agreed upon Dr. K R Anish's words that there is a need for tapping down resources. He envisions around 3 lakh trained social work trainees can be formed with the help of NEP 2020 if the opportunity is fully used. He stressed it with utilising the example of CSR. He enquired how many institutions have added the specialisation of CSR in India or started it as a new course? – Not many, except few like Madras School of Social Work.

Dr. Bhatt quoted Prof. Armaity Desai - that social work is a subject where there is a need to change the syllabus every 3 years or every year as human situations don't stay the same and they change very fast. There is a need to respond to the changing human situations and Dr. Bhatt stated that the International Conference is a reminder to the Sustainable Development Goals – the 17 goals and the 169 targets. Could we develop a single model on SDGs?

He declared that "Action is the mantra of social work".

He also introduced one of his new ventures - Social Work Herald, where he utilises technology to promote social work. He firmly stated that there is a huge need to develop the link between social work services and technology. He asked how many applications were available offering social work services.

He ended the session by quoting that there is a need to be in action, need to be innovative and need to be in reunion with the existing needs and situations.

SPECIAL ADDRESS



During his special address, Professor Manohar Pawar spoke about the social work profession, social workers, and their future. He commended the college on their platinum jubilee celebration and paid tribute to its founder, Mary Clubwala Jadhav.

Prof. Pawar emphasized that the social work profession plays a crucial role in bridging the gap between individuals and institutions. While individuals tend to peak in their achievements between the ages of 25 to 35 and gradually decline thereafter, institutions never grow old and continue to have high societal expectations placed upon them. Social work practitioners and institutions, therefore, have the potential for continuous growth and improvement. He also recognized the significant contributions made by the MSSW towards the betterment of society.

In society, finance has gained significant importance, and when we meet someone, their salary becomes a common question, often used to assess their worth. However, in the social work profession, the value is not in what one earns, but rather in the contribution they make to society. It is therefore crucial to not choose a profession based solely on pay.

The provision of service is a way of offering help, and while livelihood is necessary, we should focus on our contribution rather than the pay. It is worth noting that there are approximately 526 schools of social work.

During the address, the speaker raised concerns about the differences between professionally trained social workers and non-trained social workers. He questioned why social workers, despite their training, are not making significant changes like Anna Hazare and Mary Culbwala Jadhav. He asked what is lacking in social workers and why they are unable to achieve their goals.

The speaker then discussed his book, "Empowering Social Workers," which was funded by Australia. He pointed out that while the curriculum and professional identity are important, social workers cannot achieve their goals solely by relying on techniques and principles. Character and quality building are essential in achieving reform. Without these two elements, social workers will be unable to provide meaningful social reform.



Professional social workers receive professional supervision when they are students, but once they become social workers, regular supervision is necessary for their professional development. This helps to ensure that they maintain their standards and improve their performance. During the address, Dr. Francis, Assistant professor, D&E department, MSSW raised a question about Australia, where untrained social workers reportedly do more work than trained social workers.

CONFERENCE REPORT



Dr. Amuthalakshmi, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work Shift I, MSSW presented a report on the international conference entitled "Social Work Education, Social Equity, & Social Development." The conference aimed to explore the role of social work education in promoting social equity and development.

The report covered the key themes and discussions that took place during the conference, including the importance of social work education in addressing social issues such as poverty, inequality, and discrimination. The conference also emphasized the need for social work educators to incorporate innovative teaching methods and to collaborate with other sectors to promote social justice.



The report also highlighted the challenges faced by social work education, including funding issues, inadequate support for research and development, and a lack of recognition for the contributions made by social workers. The report provided recommendations for addressing these challenges, including increasing funding and resources for social work education, improving collaboration between social work educators and practitioners, and promoting social work as a profession.



Overall, the conference and the report emphasized the crucial role that social work education plays in promoting social equity and development, and the need to overcome the challenges faced by the profession to achieve this goal.

FEEDBACK



During the feedback session for the two-day international conference, three participants from MSSW and one participant from Aligarh University expressed their appreciation for the event.



VOTE OF THANKS



Dr. Thirumangal, Ph.D Program head of the BSW program, delivered the vote of thanks on behalf of the Department of Social Work. She expressed her gratitude to the organizers, in-charges, and judges who contributed to the plenary and panel sessions. Dr. Thirumangal acknowledged the efforts of the office bearers, organizers, and in-charges who made the event a success. She also thanked the faculty and management for their support, as well as the students and photographers for their contributions. During the session, a student also provided feedback on the conference.



NATIONAL ANTHEM

The 2 days international conference on **"Social Work Education, Social Equity & Social Development"** concluded with National Anthem at 1:50 PM.

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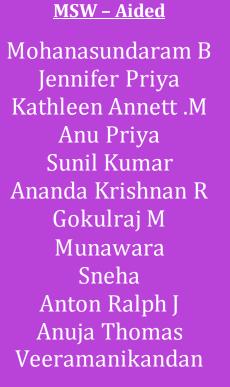
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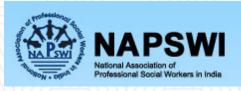
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