

Social Psychology 2007 ④ UG Sem 3
Development and Current Status of
Social Psychology in India.

According to Pandey and Singh (2009) the scientific social psychology in India began in the 1920s mostly as borrowed discipline from the west.

Asiatic Journal of Social Psychology has contributed a lot in the research development in fields of social psychology in India.

A group of Indian social psychologists, Dalal and Misra 2001, D. Sinha 1972, Pandey 1988, 2004, Parcek 1980, 18 have contributed in the fields of research works related to social psychology. They published a number of research papers on different areas of social psychology in the ~~Indian~~ national and international journals.

First textbook on Social Psychology by Indian Social Psychologists

Mukherjee & Sengupta in 1928. This combined effort of Mukherjee, renowned sociologist and Sengupta, a Harvard-trained experimental psychologist, was widely acclaimed. Thus,

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The beginning of social psychology in India was interdisciplinary in nature.

D. Sinha (1952) studied rumours and behaviour of people in catastrophic situation

Adinarayana (1941) research on colour prejudice published in the British Journal of Psychology laid the foundation for later work in the area of attitude and prejudice

As far as current status of social psychology in India is concerned, it has witnessed changes in thrust areas as well as research methodology. One trend of disconnected studies and replicated replications of western findings, is a part of Indian research reality.

The establishment of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) in 1969 was a landmark.

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ICSSR has brought the research work on social psychology into lime light. It started supporting research, training and publications, of periodical research & surveys in social psychology.

The 1970s and 1980, witnessed the beginnings of Doctoral Programs with course work, first at IIT, Kanpur and then at Allahabad.

Greater emphasis on applied social psychology became visible. The national Seminar on Applied Social Psychology in India at Bhopal in ~~1987~~ 1987 sought to explore the role of social psychology in solution of social problems related to change and development.

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Pandey (2009) in his most recent forty survey, Psychology in India revisited: Development in discipline highlighted various new researches in social psychology. Such as Social values, social justice, environment and behaviour, gender issues etc are the researches have given importance.

More recently Datta and Misra have presented current status of social psychology in a systematic order. According to them, social psychology has adopted new research methodology.

There are the following current perspectives of social psychology.

- 1 Need to entertain multiple perspective.
- 2 Need for cultural social psychology
- 3 Need for critical perspective.
- 4 Need for interdisciplinary

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5. Need for Indigenization vs relevance.
6. Theory driven research Vs. Data driven research

In this way may conclude that ~~today~~ the current ^{status of} social psychology is in the emerging state. It has brought concern ~~very~~ social problem into home life. There is an urgent need to do researches in ^{the} applied social psychology.