

## Editorial

Girishwar Misra<sup>1</sup>

Published online: 30 January 2015

© National Academy of Psychology (NAOP) India 2016

The publication of this issue of *Psychological Studies* coincides with two important occasions that indicate the progress and development of psychology both as a field of study and research endeavor. First, Calcutta University is celebrating the centenary of Psychology Department which came into existence in the year 1915. Second, this journal is completing 60 years of its publication. These two events showcase the expansion and advancement of psychology in India in the last one century. Further, I am completing 15 years as Editor of this journal of the National Academy of Psychology (NAOP) India. Editing this journal has been a challenging and enriching experience for me. Significantly this task demands a consistent, sustained and collaborative effort. I could accomplish this responsibility with the timely help and support from the community of scholars. On account of personal reasons I found it extremely difficult to continue as Editor and the executive body of the NAOP kindly agreed to my request. I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the NAOP officials and NAOP community for the conviction and trust shown during my tenure. The reviewers, associate editors and consulting editors of the journal have extended full support in editorial process. The administrative and production teams at Springer always helped in organizing the publication process.

In completing my tenure as Editor of the journal, I find myself experiencing a combination of relief and regret. The relief comes from the possibility of getting time to attend to other life tasks. The regret derives from losing one of the fascinating facets of my

professional life. Indeed serving as Editor allowed me to discern about the new and challenging developments, expansion into interdisciplinary areas, and, innovative methods and perspectives in the academic world of psychology. The manuscripts received by the journal provided me an opportunity to have an overview of the variety of interests and types of research work of colleagues in the various fields of psychology.

The last few decades have witnessed tremendous expansion of the discipline of psychology in many directions. It has happened in the domains of theory, research and practice. While psychometric, clinical and organizational subfields have continued to receive research attention a small but strong segment of researchers is showing change in their research agenda and increasingly engaging with indigenous concepts and methods. The choice of research issues and problems is showing greater degree of cultural sensibility.

*Psychological Studies* has made some effort to intervene in the prevailing academic scenario. It tried to encourage reflection, critique and sharing of indigenous thoughts, new methods, creating a forum for interaction and drawing attention to several important social and cultural issues. The publications in the journal on creativity, human development, suffering, emotions, religious behavior, beliefs, therapeutic interventions, yoga, Indian mind set, qualitative methods, self-processes, social identity, intergroup relations, social constructionism and positive psychology illustrate the expanding range of themes and participation of the scholars. Many of these contributions have adopted interdisciplinary approaches and have extended the boundaries of research endeavours. The outcomes of research in these diverse areas of interest reflect the changing practices and ambience in the discipline of psychology. The growing maturity of theory and research holds promise for the future.

In addition to regular articles the present issue of *Psychological Studies* includes a stimulating target article by

---

✉ Girishwar Misra  
misragirishwar@gmail.com

<sup>1</sup> Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Gandhi Hills, Wardha 442001, India

Adrian Brock on Diversity and Presentism in the History of Psychology. It is followed by commentaries by several scholars including Jaan Valsiner and Svend Brinkmann, Christiane Hartnack, Anand Paranjpe and Nick Hopkins. Finally, there is a rejoinder by the author Adrian Brock. I hope the discussion will bring in new ideas and invite further work towards situating the discipline in proper socio-historical and cultural context. The issue also contains many other articles that attend to issues in the Indian context. Taken together the articles strengthen the endeavor to bring cultural sensibility to the center stage of psychological discourse.

As I look back, my only regret is that we did not have an opportunity to be more innovative in handling the manuscripts. Attempts have been made to reduce the publication

lag. The support from my associate editors and reviewers has facilitated the publication procedure. I hope that the process may be planned more effectively and creative use of the journal may be enhanced. The potential for improvements in the publication process is always present. We are very fortunate in having Professor Damodar Suar assuming the editorship of *Psychological Studies*. It is hoped that under the able editorship of Professor Suar the journal will continue to promote psychology. In addition to being a productive researcher he has been serving as Associate Editor of the journal. He is familiar with the functioning of the journal. I welcome him and his team. With Professor Damodar Suar as Editor the journal is in excellent hands. I wish him success in his endeavor.