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**Jindal School of
Psychology & Counselling**
India's First Transdisciplinary Psychology School

Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling
cordially invites you to the

> NATIONAL CONFERENCE <

on

Addressing and Navigating Mental Health Disparities among Marginalized Groups

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Patron:

Prof. (Dr.) Derick H. Lindquist

Dean, Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling,
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana

Conveners:

Dr. Arti Singh, Associate Professor, JSPC

Dr. Kriti Gupta, Assistant Professor, JSPC

Dr. Sangeeta Yadav, Associate Professor, JSPC

Dr. Smriti Pathak, Assistant Professor, JSPC

Dr. Kumari Vibhuti Nayak

Assistant Professor,

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences (CSSS),
Calcutta

7 OCTOBER 2025

10 AM - 5 PM

Zenith Auditorium, Ratan Jindal Academic Block, Ground Floor,
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana.

CONCEPT NOTE

Mental health is a critical component of overall well-being, yet access to mental healthcare and the prevalence of mental health issues are unevenly distributed across populations, societies and ethnic races. In India, marginalized groups – including but not limited to Dalits, Adivasis (Scheduled Tribes), LGBTQIA+ individuals, persons with disabilities, and economically weaker sections, often experience disproportionately higher rates of mental health challenges. These challenges are frequently rooted in systemic discrimination, social exclusion, poverty, violence, lack of access to resources (including healthcare), and historical trauma. Despite the growing recognition of mental health's importance, the specific issues faced by these communities often remain under-addressed in policy, research, and public discourse. While this event primarily focuses on the theme of Mental Health of Marginalized Groups, we have adopted an interdisciplinary approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of marginalization. Aligned with the sustainable goals provided by the United Nations (2023), such as Goal 1 (No poverty), Goal 3 (Good health and wellbeing), Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities), Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), and Goal 17 (Partnerships for goals), this conference aims to create a platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and collaboration among researchers, practitioners, policymakers, to understand these complex issues and work towards equitable solutions.

INAUGURAL SESSION: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

- 10:00 AM – 10:05 AM** **Welcome Address**
Dr. Smriti Pathak
Assistant Professor,
Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling, Sonipat
- 10:05 AM – 10:15 AM** **Introductory Remarks**
Prof. (Dr.) Derick H. Lindquist
Dean, Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling (JSPC),
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat
- 10:15 AM – 10:45 AM** **Keynote Address**
Prof. (Dr.) Kumar Ravi Priya
Professor of Psychology,
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM** **Q & A Session and Vote of Thanks**
Dr. Sangeeta Yadav
Associate Professor, Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat

THEMATIC SESSION I: 11:10 AM – 12:25 PM

Wellbeing and Mental Health: Antecedents and Outcomes

Chairperson:

Prof. (Dr.) T. B. Singh

Chairman, Governing Council,
National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR),
Sehore, M.P. & Former Dean, School of Human Sciences,
Central University of South Bihar, Gaya, Bihar

Panel Members:

- **Dr. Pooja Batra**
Assistant Professor,
Jindal Global Business School
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat
- **Dr. Deepali Taneja**
Associate Professor,
Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat
- **Mr. Nitin Jain**
Practitioner and Founder of the NGO
Spread Smile Foundation, Sonipat

12:30PM–1:45PM

Lunch

Fifth Floor, Vidya Devi Jindal Dining Block

THEMATIC SESSION II: 02:00 PM – 03:15 PM

Unraveling Cultural Nuances in Understanding and Designing Mental Health Interventions

Chairperson:

Prof. (Dr.) Chetan Sinha, Professor of Law, Jindal Global Law School,
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat

Panel Members:

- **Dr. Kumari Vibhuti Nayak**
Assistant Professor,
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta
- **Dr. Shivani Kapoor**
Associate Professor,
Center for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi
- **Dr. Vasudha Singh**
Founder and Head,
Vikalp Psychotherapy Clinic, Delhi NCR

THEMATIC SESSION III: 03:20 PM – 04:45 PM

Stigma and Mental Health: Accessibility and Role of Technology

Chairperson:

Dr. Prashant Negi, Assistant Professor, Dr. K.R. Narayanan Centre for
Dalit and Minorities Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

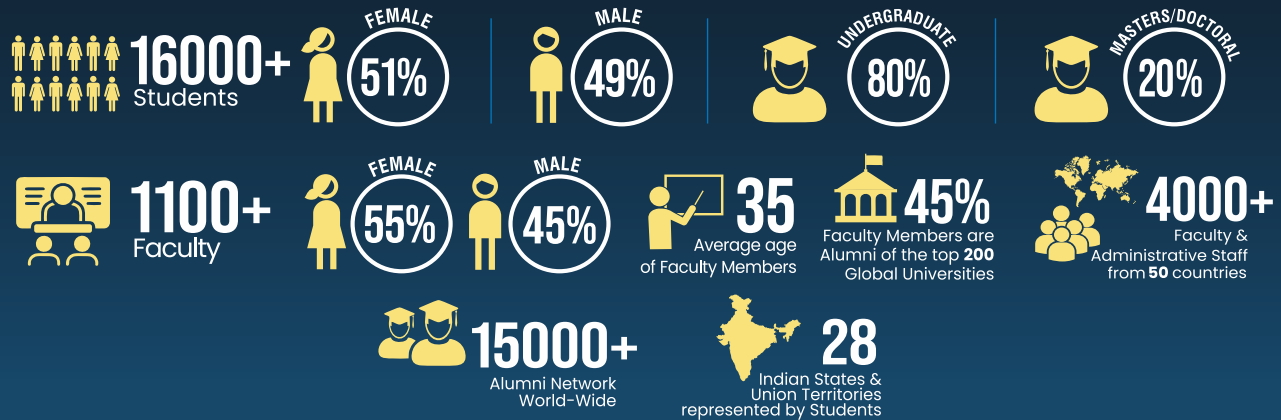
Panel Members

- **Dr. Mala Mukherjee**
Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies,
South Extension II, New Delhi
- **Ms. Anupriya Kapoor**
Practitioner and Consultant,
Pathways School Noida, Delhi NCR
- **Dr. Rashedur Chowdhury** (Online)
Professor of Business and Management,
Essex Business School (EBS), University of Essex, U.K.

CLOSING THE CONFERENCE: 04:45 PM – 05:00 PM

Dr. Kriti Gupta, Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling
O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat

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