



Third Announcement
1st June 2009

Vidya Prasarak Mandal's
**K. G. Joshi College Of Arts &
N. G. Bedekar College Of Commerce, Thane**

In Association with

Co-sponsored by



Mens Sana Monographs



World Psychiatric Association (WPA)

TWO DAY INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON
Mind, Brain and Consciousness

Thursday, 14th and Friday, 15th January, 2010

Venue

Thorale Bajirao Peshawe Sabhagruha,
"Jnanadweepa", Thane College Campus,
Chendani Bunder Road,
Thane 400 601, (MS), India.

Organised by

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OUR VISION: FROM INFORMATION TO KNOWLEDGE TO WISDOM

Topics for International Seminar on Mind, Brain and Consciousness

Mind, Brain and Consciousness

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1. Mind, Brain and Consciousness: an overview
 2. Mind, Brain and Consciousness: where are we and where do we go from here?
 3. Mind, Brain and Consciousness: areas of connect and disconnect
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Brain and Mind

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1. Brain and mind: the hen or the egg ?
2. Brain and mind: areas of connect and disconnect
3. Brain and mind: structure and function
4. Brain and mind: current research trends
5. The mind is the brain, and the brain the mind
6. Cerebral cortex as a medium for elaboration of conscious content
7. Neural organization of consciousness
8. Brain stem functions as integral to the conscious state
9. Thalamocortical region and consciousness
10. What is the brain? How does it work?
11. How do our brains constitute subjective experience of our selves and our environment?
12. Brain mechanisms which underlie our emotions and our sense of self
13. Developing empirically plausible definitions of mental states (i.e. qualia), the self, and the mind-brain relationship
14. Behaviorism of Watson and Skinner, and the concept of mind
15. Mind according to the Gestalt psychology of Köhler and Köffka
16. Cognitive psychology and modeling of internal mental processes and information processing as seen in the works of Neisser and Gardiner
17. Freud and his concept of mind and the unconscious
18. Neo-Freudians and the mind
19. Current psychoanalytical understanding of the mind

20. Jung's concept of mind and the collective unconscious
 21. Freud's psychoanalysis and Indian *citta-vrtti-nirodha*: any parallels?
 22. Id-ego-superego and *sattva-rajastamas*: any parallels?
 23. Cognitive psychology and the concept of mind
 24. Transactional analysis and understanding the mind
 25. NLP or Neuro-linguistic programming
 26. Body language and the mind
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Brain and Consciousness

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1. Brain and consciousness: cause and effect
 2. Brain and consciousness: areas of connect and disconnect
 3. Mind and consciousness: an overview
 4. Mind and consciousness: recent advances
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Consciousness

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1. Towards a definition of consciousness
2. What is consciousness?
3. Consciousness as awareness of self and the environment
4. Cybernetics and its relevance to consciousness
5. Consciousness and intentionality
6. Consciousness still a mystery
7. Representational theories of consciousness
8. Unity of consciousness
9. Self consciousness
10. Is consciousness more than awareness or wakefulness?
11. Consciousness and Mind: philosophical concepts and emerging evidence from brain research.
12. Dualist and physicalist theories of consciousness
13. Higher-order theories of consciousness
14. Representational theories of consciousness

15. Cognitive theories of consciousness
16. Neural theories of consciousness
17. Quantum theories of consciousness
18. Qualia and consciousness
19. Introspection and consciousness
20. The introspective method of Wilhelm Wundt, Hermann von Helmholtz, William James and Alfred Titchener
21. Self-knowledge as an aspect of consciousness
22. Creature consciousness and state consciousness
23. The 'state of consciousness'
24. Scientific psychology and its impact on consciousness studies
25. A major resurgence of scientific and philosophical research into the nature and basis of consciousness in the 1980s and 90s
26. Neurobiology of consciousness

Mind

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1. What is the mind?
2. Philosophy of mind: brief review of relevant concepts
3. Western concept of mind and consciousness: an overview
4. Indian concept of mind and consciousness: an overview
5. Identity theory of mind
6. Computational theory of mind.
7. Classical and modern concepts and theories about Mind and Consciousness: a review
8. The Mind-Body or Body-Mind problem
9. The idealist and materialist views about mind
10. The identity, the computational and double aspect theories of mind
11. Monistic and dualistic theories of mind
12. Interactionism and the mind
13. Epiphenomenalism and the mind
14. Structuralism and the mind
15. Reductionism and the mind
16. Materialism and the mind
17. Occasionalism and the mind

18. Neutral monism and mind
19. Functionalism and the mind
20. Psychophysical parallelism and the mind.
21. The phenomenon of creativity
22. Intuition
23. Serendipity
24. Mind as reduced to a machine

Interconnection and Interdisciplinary Approach

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1. Interconnection between Cognitive neurosciences and Philosophy of mind
2. Integrating knowledge about mind, brain and consciousness in the independent branches of philosophical thought and scientific experimentation.
3. The role of Specialty journals devoted to the study of consciousness: *The Journal of Consciousness Studies, Consciousness and Cognition, Psyche*
4. The work of professional societies: Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness - ASSC
5. Bridging the gap between philosophers of mind and brain researchers
6. What the philosophers of mind often feel but do not say: brain research will only touch the fringe of our understanding of mind and consciousness
7. What the brain scientists often believe but will not mouth: philosophers indulge in speculation devoid of empirical evidence and hence 'talk out of their hat'.
8. Dispelling notions and prejudices between philosophers and scientists
9. Promoting respect for and a dialogue between philosophers of mind and brain scientists by serious study of each other's work.

Cognitive Neurosciences

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1. Cognitive neurosciences: an overview
2. Neurobiology: current trends and future directions

3. Essentials of Neurophysiology
4. Neurochemistry of consciousness
5. Subcortical regions and the self
6. Mind and mental illness
7. Brain, mind and mental illness
8. Consciousness disorders
9. Consciousness disorders as dysfunction of cerebral hemispheres and brain stem reticular formation
10. Neuroscientific and neurophilosophical investigation of the linkage between our self and its brain
11. Pre-reflective self awareness and reflective self consciousness
12. Consciousness as composed of two parts: Pre-reflective self awareness [subcortical] and reflective self consciousness [cortical]
13. Unconsciousness as loss of the ability to maintain awareness of self and environment combined with markedly reduced responsiveness to environmental stimuli [Adams et al., *Principles of Neurology*, 6th ed, pp344-5]
14. Neurophilosophy
15. Our brain-based knowledge apparatus and its tendency to assume a mind
16. Neuroimaging
17. Neuroimaging and neurophilosophy
18. Philosophy, Neuroscience and Psychiatry: a transdisciplinary approach
19. Consciousness without the cerebral cortex: wishful thinking, or challenge to neuroscience?
20. Cortical midline structures (CMS) as involved in neural processing of our self
21. Relationship between CMS, emotional processing, and self-related processing
22. Mind-brain relation and personal identity
23. Neuroscientific, Neuropsychiatric and Neurophilosophical approaches to brain, mind and consciousness
24. Neuromonitoring
25. Imaging studies using fMRI, EEG, MEG, and TMS: what do they reveal?
26. Neurophysiological and neurochemical mechanisms of the CMS
27. Neurobiology, and study of the brain
28. Neuropsychology: recent advances, and what they mean to understanding the mind
29. Neurophysiology, and what it tells us about the brain
30. The interdisciplinary field of Cognitive Neuroscience
31. Recent advances in the cognitive neurosciences
32. Current trends in the Neurosciences
33. Cognitive Science: important findings for understanding the mind
34. Cognitive Neurosciences: connecting the sciences of the brain [Neurosciences] with the sciences of the Mind [Cognitive Science]
35. Neuro-imaging and ionic/molecular processes studies, brain function: what do they mean to the philosophers of Mind

Philosophy of Mind

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1. Plato, St. Augustine, Descartes on mind-body dualism
 2. Mind-body dualism: a critique for today
 3. Descartes' 'mental substance' '*pensee*' or reflexive consciousness
 4. Descartes' Interactionism and philosophy of mind: any relevance for today?
 5. Locke and rejection of 'mental substance'
 6. Hume and the 'bundle concept'
 7. Kant's critique of associationist approaches and stress on 'phenomenal consciousness'
 8. Berkeley's Idealism as in *Principles of Human Knowledge*, 1710, and its relevance for the philosophy of mind
 9. Leibniz's Parallelism and present movements in philosophy of mind
 10. Double-Aspect Theories of Spinoza, Gustav Fechner, W.K. Clifford, Herbert Spencer and P.F. Strawson: any impact on today's thoughts on philosophy of mind?
 11. William James' 'stream of consciousness' and whether it influences our thinking on consciousness any longer
 12. Brentano's 'intentionality' and consciousness
 13. Cabanis and older masters on Epiphenomenalism and its relation to consciousness
 14. Vienna Circle, especially Otto Neurath and Rudolf Carnap, on physicalism or extreme materialism, and how it impacts present day theorising in the field of consciousness
 15. Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger and Maurice Merleau-Ponty's 'phenomenology' and its impact on consciousness today
 16. J.J.C. Smart and H. Feigl's 'Identity theory': what is it, and does it mean anything any longer?
 17. Russell's 'sensibilia' and consciousness
 18. Geulincx and Malebranche's Occasionalism: just a straw in the wind?
 19. Philosophy of mind and its connection with the philosophy of action
 20. Free will, motive, intentions, cognition, volition, feelings, and related ethical concepts: relevant issues in the philosophy of mind
 21. Recent advances in perception, sensation, insight, intuition, judgement, thought and reasoning
 22. Classical and Contemporary theories of Doubt, Inference, Reasoning and Logical thinking
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Brain and Neuro-Biological Research

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1. K.S. Lashley's contribution to brain research
 2. H. -L. Tauber's war time brain damage study by EEG and PEG, and its influence on development of brain mapping studies
 3. W.G. Penfield and direct stimulation of patient's brain: a significant step in brain research?
 4. Eric Kandel, Paul Greengard and E. Carlsson - Microstructures necessary for learning, memory and effect of psychoactive substances
 5. R. Axel and L.B. Buck - genes, protein receptors and odour recognition
 6. The role of neurotransmitters, especially the biogenic amines, aminoacids, and neuropeptides
 7. The brain as the structural correlate of the mind
 8. The brain as the center and head of the central nervous and neuro-endocrine systems
 9. The functions of the cerebrum: thought, language, moral and social conduct, creativity, spirituality
 10. The limbic system, emotions and sexuality
 11. The neuro-endocrine system and stress, emotions, thoughts and feelings
 12. Toxic, metabolic, infectious, degenerative and congenital/traumatic conditions of brain pathology
 13. Neuropsychiatric conditions in clinical and research psychiatry/neurology
 14. The emerging vast body of evidential findings from the various neurosciences
 15. The contribution of classical psychiatry/neurology to understanding the mind
 16. Brain, mind and soul
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Concept of Mind in the Indian Philosophies

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1. The concept of mind in Indian thought
2. Analytical study of the concept of mind in the Indian philosophies
3. Comparative study of mind in Indian and western thought
4. Mind in the Upanishads
5. Vedanta, mind and consciousness
6. Advaitic concept of mind
7. Buddhist concept of mind
8. Mind in the different darsanas
9. Mind and self in Indian thought
10. Self above matter
11. Mind cannot be identified with self according to Indian thought
12. Antahkarana as internal sense organ
13. The concept of manas

14. Jiva, manas and atman
15. Vasana, vairagya and manas
16. The state of sat-citta-ananda
17. The five organs of perception, the five organs of action [karmendriyas], the five vital breaths [pranas], the mind [manas], intellect [buddhi], egoity [ahamkara] and the mind-stuff [citta]
18. Jiva and its kosas
19. The Kosas – Annamaya [sheath of food and matter], pranamaya [sheath of vital breath], manomaya [mental sheath], vijnanamaya [intellectual sheath] and anandamaya [the sheath of bliss] – and what do they signify in understanding the self
20. Citta and samkaras
21. Buddhi, ahamkara and citta
22. Citta-vrtti-nirodha: what does it signify to the concept of mind in Indian thought
23. Citta and vrittis
24. Ahamkara [or egoism] and the Mind
25. The state of mindlessness
26. The state of moksa
27. Atman and the Mind
28. The concept of brain in Indian thought
29. Body represented by the brain, mind represented by vijnana and atman represented by the life principle make for the complete man
30. The state of savikalpaka and nirvikalpaka samadhi
31. The Gunas -- Sattva, rajas, tamas -- and the self
32. Buddhi or cognition
33. The concept of Citta
34. The Indriyas, Karmendriyas, and Jnanendriyas
35. Jnana or knowledge
36. Smrti or memory
37. Mind as an internal organ of sense
38. Mind as self
39. Mind as not the self
40. Mind as minute and subtle
41. Mind as instrument of knowledge
42. Mind as instrument of the soul
43. Self-cognition of Mind
44. Mind as cause
45. Mind and dream experience
46. Mind as reduced to a machine
47. Sense organs and mind contact
48. Vrtti or mental mode
49. Self or Atman or Soul
50. Self as pure consciousness
51. Vijnana or discrimination
52. Prajna or intelligence
53. Sannikarsa, or relation between mind, sense-organ and the object
54. Samkalpa or power of conception
55. S. Chennakesavan (1991), *Concept of mind in Indian Philosophy*, Motilal Banarsidass: a review

56. Indian definition of mind

Some Books on Mind, Brain and Consciousness

1. Penfield, W. 1975. *The Mystery of the Mind: a Critical Study of Consciousness and the Human Brain*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press: how do we measure its impact today
2. Dennett, D. C. 1991. *Consciousness Explained*. Boston: Little, Brown and Company: how did it impact further work
3. Lycan, W. 1987. *Consciousness*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press: a review
4. Lycan, W. 1996. *Consciousness and Experience*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press: placing in perspective
5. Baars, B. 1988. *A Cognitive Theory of Consciousness*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: reviewing its significance today
6. Penrose, R. 1989. *The Emperor's New Mind: Computers, Minds and the Laws of Physics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press: a trendsetter?
7. Penrose, R. 1994. *Shadows of the Mind*. Oxford: Oxford University Press: looking back
8. Chalmers, D. 1996. *The Conscious Mind*. Oxford: Oxford University Press: a review
9. A.J. Ayer's Neutral Monism in *Language, Truth and Logic*, 1936, and its impact on subsequent theorizing in study of the mind
10. Gilbert Ryle's 'the ghost in the machine' in *The Concept of Mind*, 1949: how relevant was it in shifting paradigms in later work in the field?
11. Crick, F. H. 1994. *The Astonishing Hypothesis: The Scientific Search for the Soul*. New York: Scribners: placing in perspective
12. S. Chennakesavan (1991), *Concept of mind in Indian Philosophy*, Motilal Banarsidass: a review

Two Workshops[\[GO TO TOP\]](#)**'Mind and Consciousness' Workshop [21 Aug, 2009]**

1. The concept of mind in classical Indian Philosophical systems
2. The concept of consciousness in classical Indian Philosophical systems
3. Mind and consciousness: an overview
4. Mind and consciousness: recent advances
5. Theories of Mind

6. Theories of Consciousness
7. Neurobiology of mind
8. From mind to consciousness
9. Supramental state
10. Meditation and state of the mind
11. Neurobiology of meditation
12. Related topics from the main list of topics for the International Seminar: [Pg.5-14]

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‘Brain and Consciousness’ Workshop [27 Nov, 2009]

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1. Brain research: recent advances
2. Theories of consciousness
3. Brain and consciousness: current research findings
4. Current trends in consciousness research
5. Neurobiology of consciousness
6. Bridging the gap between brain and consciousness research
7. Brain and consciousness in classical Indian philosophical systems
8. Brain and consciousness in Ayurveda and Patanjali Yoga
9. Related topics from the main list of topics for the International Seminar: [Pg. 5-14]

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