

CALL FOR PAPERS

National Seminar

Mapping Experience & Consciousness: General Semantics, Philosophy & Human Sciences

THEME

Experience is a priori to human understanding and knowledge. How do we abstract, absorb, assimilate and perform depends on the (kind of) experience we have in our human life. Plato, Locke, Kant, Dewey, Husserl, Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Foucault, Searle etc., inspired by this phenomenon, had engaged with what experience entails and what is the nature of truth. The founder of the system of General Semantics, Alfred Korzybski (1879-1956), distressed by the poignant experience in the aftermath of World War I, felt the need to understand what is human, and which experiences make one a human being and influence the world to be better through ones' actions. Hence Korzybski, in his General Semantics thought, classified the humans as 'time-binders' where they can create the symbols of experience and pass them on to the next generation humans. For Korzybski, it is called the 'theory of values' and for J. Samuel Bois (1966), 'the world of self-awareness and self-management'. On the other hand, Phenomenology as a philosophical thought and method of inquiry engages with the structures of consciousness. These structures of consciousness are the result of the subjective experience of the everyday, objective world. Thus, phenomenologists are known for understanding the 'phenomena' in daily life, and the events and actions from various fields like art practices, socio-political issues, etc.

According to the philosopher Eldar Sarajlic, the denial of reality/truth is the ominous feature of the present lived world. The perception of reality has become hard and our touch with reality is lost and consequently, we are unable to perceive the truth of signs like global warming or economic inequality. The recent events and changes in society, culture and politics have emphasized, more than before, the urgent need to re-evaluate lived experiences as a valid subject of enquiry in various domains of humanities and social sciences. The need to understand the multifaceted reality of our existence is celebrated today as an important critical thinking. Therefore it makes for a justified academic cause to fathom the multivalent nuances of lived reality, experience and consciousness, and to explore inter-corporeality from diverse entry points. General Semantics and Phenomenology both similarly focus on humans and their subjective experiences, which Bois defines as happenings-meanings and, what Husserl would call to return to things themselves. Experiences are pursued philosophically to return to the 'truth' and to understand things as they are in themselves. The purpose of the present seminar is to seek different approaches to experience in wide range of areas like philosophy, psychology, art, literature, tradition, history, politics, religion, health science, cognitive sciences and social sciences and seek answers to the subjective experience of lived reality.

We welcome original abstracts (**not more than 300 words**) with interdisciplinary approaches, from philosophers, researchers, postgraduate students, performers and artists with different perspectives related (but not limited) to the following topics.

Sub-themes:

- General Semantics
- Cognitive Sciences
- Consciousness and Experience
- Lived Experience
- Representations of Identity
- Art, Culture & Performance
- Media Studies
- Embodiment and Experience
- Corporeal linguistic/aesthetics
- Experience in History, Traditions, Rituals
- Inter-subjectivity, Inter-corporeality
- Experience in Indic Philosophical Thought
- Social and Health Sciences

Important Dates

WHEN: 23, 24, 25 July 2024

WHERE: Sardar Patel University, Anand, Gujarat

Abstract Submission Deadline: 15th May 2024

Acceptance Notification: 1st June 2024

Mail to: bpbarodaofficial@gmail.com

Registration Fees:

Faculty: 2500 INR (with accommodation)

For Students: 1000 INR (without accommodation)

ORGANISERS

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