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NAAC accredited 'A' grade

20th Samanwaya

3, 4 March 2023

International Conference on:
“CHILD PROTECTION AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY”

Organized by

*Dept. of Social Work, BCM College, Kottayam
in association with Kadambari College, Nepal,
Johannesburg University, South Africa*

KAPS, INPSWA, ASSK and Child line

Concept Note

Introduction

Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial (BCM) College located in the heart of Kottayam was established in the year 1955. It is one of the prestigious and premier colleges affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala, India. **Samanwaya** “literally means - **the blend of all**” is the annual gathering of social work students, educators, scholars and practitioners across the country and abroad organized since 2003 by the Department of Social Work, BCM College Kottayam. The aim is to facilitate a better understanding of relevant contemporary views, which has a stimulating, thought provoking impact, in the form of National/International level Social Work students meet or capacity building programme for students and practitioners from related fields. Department of Social Work has strong association with Kerala Association of Professional Social Workers (KAPS) affiliated to IFSW. It is a member of Association of Schools of Social Work in Kerala (ASSK) and Asia Pacific Association of Schools of Social Work (APASSW).

Samanwaya 2023; 20th Edition

Samanwaya has been specially concentrating on the theme of contemporary child related issues and its intervention strategies since 2008. This theme has evolved from field experience of social work department. This year also Samanwaya is being organized in association with Kadambari Memorial College, Kathmandu Nepal, KAPS, Johannesburg University South Africa, INPSWA, ASSK, Child line and other child related Organization a broader theme for children **‘CHILD PROTECTION AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY’**

Theme of Samanwaya 2023: 20th Edition: **‘CHILD PROTECTION AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY’**

Child protection is the safeguarding of children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect. Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child provides for the protection of children in and out of the home. “Child rights are the fundamental freedom and the inherent rights of human beings below the age of 18”. These rights to apply irrespective of their gender, caste, race, color or other status. To fully realize children right to protection, it is important to adopt a different attitude towards children and their needs.

Looking at the ever-rising cases of child abuse and neglect, it seems the world requires to spend more time and resources for children. "Children are the asset of every nation". They are fundamental group of human civilization. A Child cannot develop to be responsible and a productive member of our society unless an environment, which is conducive to his /her social and physical health and protection, is assured to him/her children can be considered as the vulnerable group as well. It is very important to protect the children from any kind of problem that may occur to them. Every child has the right to grow up in a safe and inclusive environment.

All children deserve a happy childhood and the opportunity to lead a dignified life safe from violence, exploitation, neglect, deprivation and discrimination. India is a young nation, with a child population of more than 444 million. Protection of this 40% of the young population is not only a matter of their human rights but also an investment towards building a robust nation. The Constitution of India recognize children as equal right holder and grants highest priority for their protection and well-being. India is also signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and accordingly has a strong legal framework to protect children which include the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015; the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012; Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act 1994; the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act 2005; the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009; Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006; and Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016.

India is among the countries having a significant number of child labourers. "Substantial variation in child labour estimates exists across the South Asian countries. In absolute terms, child labour in 5-17 age group is highest in India (5.8 million), followed by Bangladesh (5 million), Pakistan (3.4 million) and Nepal (2 million)," says ILO report titled 'Child Labour in South Asia. The current policy draws upon the safeguards provided under the Constitutions of India, various child-centric legislation, international treaties as well as other existing policies for the protection and wellbeing of children. It aims at providing a safe and conducive environment for all children through the prevention and response to child abuse, exploitation and neglect. It provides a framework for all institution, and organization (including corporate and media houses), government or private sector to understand their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding/ protecting children and promoting the welfare of children; individually and collectively.

The Covid-19 global pandemic declared by the World Health Organization has become overwhelming and staggering in number of growing cases and deaths worldwide. Aside from getting the virus, children are also still vulnerable to the impacts of this pandemic. They become witness in families struggling with government lockdowns that prevent their parents from earning a living. Some children lost parent because of the disease. School closures, home quarantines, and psychological distress add up to the negative effects on children's emotional, social and physical well-being. And for a child, this intimidating outbreak more than meets the eye. WHO offered several advice for coping with stress for children in a pandemic. During emergencies, it is common and normal for both adults and children to feel sad, nervous, upset, confused, afraid, or irritable, and that talking to someone trusted like family members or friends will improve their mood. Children are able to enjoy life in all its fullness when they feel safe, free and comfortable in their environment – when they enjoy good health, when the people they trust are with them, when the things they need are provided, and when they can perform activities normal activities like going to school and playing with friends, without fear or hesitation.

The world is in a new normal. The changes that happen in the daily life of people seriously affects children too. Children definitely pick up on the stress level in their environment. The right effort to deal with the new normal era is to strengthen child protection based on children's rights, starting from parents, family, community, and government during the pandemic. Associated with the establishment of a policy schedule for children entering school when the new normal era in the

Covid-19 pandemic. Social workers have the responsibility of child protection than any other professionals. All the discussions and sharing of knowledge by various means in the three days conference shall help all participants to get a thorough insight to the child protection issues that the society is likely to experience through the present decade which in turn will help them in their fields towards working for the protection of rights of children and ensuring their proper development. Samanwaya is an excellent platform for sharing on such thoughts in various areas of children and having presence of eminent professionals.

Child protection is the matter of priority concern for all the nations across the world. All the member countries of UN are committed to protection of the children in their respective countries by ensuring their rights of children based on UNCRC. The initiatives of government machinery through the implementation of various policies and legislations related to child protection have shown positive results in the protection of children. The strategies by government and non government organizations through various programmes have been able to deal with difficult situations of children but creating an overall protective environment for the children in our society still remains a dream. Various reports by Govt. and organizations like child line show the increasing number of cases of child abuse.

The role of professional social work becomes relevant here. Social workers hold the responsibility of child protection than any other professionals. We need to have a thorough understanding about the existing system for protection of children and critically analyse them to suggest measures of improvement. In this context, Samanwaya this year has taken the theme: ‘Child Protection and Social Responsibility’.

Objectives of Samanwaya (Expected outcome)

- a) To create a platform for professional Social Workers and Students to meet and share their experience and views.
- b) To provide chances for sharing knowledge and thereby academic improvement.
- c) To learn innovative models and experiences in the field of child protection & child rights at regional/ national/international levels.
- d) To create forum to showcase creative talents and innovative strategies in working for a relevant social cause.

20th Samanwaya is organized with a series of online events. There are programmes for Social Work practitioners, Social Work students, School students and general public. The events comprise of the following:-

A. International Conference on 3-4 March 2023

- (i) Session on “**Child Protection and Social Responsibility**”, Panel discussions and Paper Presentations on sub themes on **3-4 March 2023**. Paper presentations: Open for Social Work practitioners (educators, research scholars and other practitioners), students and practitioners from other streams on the following related sub themes:

Subthemes

- 1) Social Responsibility in Child Protection
- 2) Child Labour – A Social Responsibility Issue
- 3) Substance Abuse in Children and Social responsibility
- 4) Changing culture and rights of children
- 5) Rights of children and digital society
- 6) Parenting in the contemporary society

- 7) Juvenile crimes and social work intervention
- 8) Child Abuse in Family.
- 9) Indigenous Social Work practices in working with children
- 10) Disaster and Children
- 11) Practice of social work methods in child protection
- 12) Impacts of domestic violence on children
- 13) Migration and children
- 14) Policies and Programmes on child protection
- 15) Raising children in digital world
- 16) Challenges to child rights in present decade
- 17) Child rights and community involvement
- 18) Extension programmes/ field action projects/ field work initiatives of Social Work departments/ Social Work practice on child related areas and other areas of social practice
- 19) Child trafficking and child rights
- 20) Child Protection in Post Pandemic Era.

The abstracts of the papers (typed in Times New Roman font in MS –Word format, not exceeding 250 words) should reach the organizers at bcmsamanwayaacademic@gmail.com or before **24th Feb 2023**. The selection of abstracts will be intimated within 2-3 days of submission. Submission of full paper **on or before 28th Feb 2023**. **There will be a provision for presenting papers through online for the participants outside Kerala/India on 6th March 2023**. Papers can be presented during specific sessions allotted to each presenter using power point or through posters. Selected papers will be published in the conference proceedings or in ‘**educere-the bcm journal of social work**’ (ISSN 2249-1090), a peer reviewed biannual journal published since 2005. A Copy of compendium of abstracts will be sent to all online participants. **The best presentations (students and practitioners) will be given cash award and certificate.**

B. Social Work Students' meet

Theme based competitive events of social work students on themes related to the main theme ‘**CHILD PROTECTION AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**’ **” on 3- 4 March 2023.**

In an effort to work towards the cause, *20th Samanwaya* welcomes entries for participation in the following events that contribute substantially towards addressing the issue. The details for the events are attached.

1. **Academic Poster Presentation- a research-based presentation on an evidenced based practice model. (The papers submitted for conference presentation cannot be used for this competition)**
2. **Debate: Seeking to establish a viewpoint on a given relevant issue.**
3. **Street Play**
4. **Short video making**
5. **Extempore**

There will be extempore events mingling students of social work from various colleges **(Rules and regulations of the competitions events will be intimated shortly).**

There will be a ‘**Best Dissertation Award**’ for the best dissertation done by **MSW** students of **2020- 222Batch** on child related topics.

Registration Fee details:

	Students	Practitioners (including educators)	KAPS Members	
			Students	Practitioners
Participation Only	Rs.500 Rs.150(Accommodation)	Rs.600 Rs.150(Accommodation)	Rs.450 Rs.150(Accommodation)	Rs.550 Rs.150(Accommodation)
Participation with Paper Presentations	Rs.600 Rs.150(Accommodation)	Rs.700 Rs.150(Accommodation)	Rs.450 Rs.150(Accommodation)	Rs.650 Rs.150(Accommodation)

Nominal accommodation only will be provided. Participants who need better accommodation may contact the organizers. Also charges for accommodation should be send along with registration fee. For overseas participants: Registration fee for overseas participants is INR.1000without accommodation.

Registration for the event can makeby filling the Google form (attached).

<https://tinyurl.com/Samanwaya-Registration-Form>

Registration fees can be paid to A/cNo. 67122168742, State Bank of India, Kottayam Town Branch (IFS Code: SBIN0070102), ThirunakkaraSouth,Kottayam (Name of account holder: Dept. of Social Work, BCM College,Kottayam). Registration form also can be downloaded from college website .Filled registration forms with proof of bank payment may be sent to Department Social Work, BCM College, Kottayam-686001,Kerala, India or email at bcmsamanwaya@gmail.com. Registration can be done by using online Google form.

Distribution of Certificates

All the registered participants will get the certificates and for online participants certificates will be send through Registered post (with in India only).Winners of competitions will get Certificates,Trophy and Cash Awards.For group events certificate of all the members in the team will be distributed.Overseas participants will get soft copy of the certificate or e-certificate by email.

Associates of 20thSamanwaya

Kadambari Memorial College of Science and Management

Kadambari Memorial College of Science and Management was established in the year 2005 with a vision 'AppaDippoBhawa' meaning "Be your Own Light" Kadambari Memorial College is the second college of social work in Nepal and first college of Purbanchal University to offer

bachelor of Social Work program. It is in process of beginning Master in Social Work in near future. The course followed the generic framework to develop entry level. Kadambari Memorial College has built its linkages with national and international schools of social work and organization of social work. It is a member of United Academic Impact (UAI), International Association of School of Social work (IASSW), Asia Pacific University Community Engagement Network (APUCEN). The college has partnerships with many different universities and colleges around the globe.

Dept. of Social Work & Social Development, Johannesburg University, South Africa

The department of Social Work and Social Development is housed in the faculty of Humanities at the Auckland Park Campus of the University of Johannesburg. UJ is the only South African university listed in world universities 2021. It offers a comprehensive range of academic programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. UJ consistently climbs QS university ranking for its consummate global academic and research performance.

KAPS (Kerala Association of Professional Social Workers)

KAPS is the registered association of professional social workers in Kerala. KAPS is affiliated to IFSW (International Federation of Social Workers) through INPSWA (India Network of Professional Social Work Associations). KAPS has chapters in all districts of Kerala. Details of KAPS are available at www.kaps.org.in.

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