



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS

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WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS-2023

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CTD:02AM- APPROACHES, METHODS AND METHODOLOGIES

SUB-DOMAIN: 1. METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES AND NEW APPROACHES IN ANTHROPOLOGY

PANEL TITLE:

ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELD WORK: ETHICAL ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

CONVENOR: DR. ANINDITA NAYAK

ABSTRACT

Fieldwork is the most important component of ethnographic writing and multifaceted in its expression. Anthropological fieldwork traditions began with the concept of studying “others”. This tradition received critical comments for its approach of study from dominant discourses of the era. Post-structuralism and postmodernist approach offered alternative perspective to visualize the field. The gaze was no longer restricted to the researcher but shifted to the research co-participants, the people one studies. Indigenous culture studies as it is commonly referred differs from classic Anthropological epistemologies. It strengthens our understanding of ground realities and ensure voice of the native in the public domain of knowledge. Critical thinking and polyphony are its strength. It further attempts to decolonize methodologies. A researcher after receiving training on various contours of anthropological methodologies remains mentally prepared to accept diverse voices emanating from the field. For researchers and academics working in predominantly institutions that cater to the needs of indigenous students, differing methodological knowledge provides experiential learning. This is academically addressed in the classroom. Indigenous scholars speak at length about it. This panel invites presentations from scholars of indigenous origin and others working on autoethnography and critical thinking. Their learnings would be shared with students coming from different Adivasi communities and studying in institutions that are designed for knowledge sharing.

Keywords: Fieldwork, Indigenous Culture Studies, Auto Ethnography, Ethical Issues, Challenges

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