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# WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS-2023

BHUBANESWAR, INDIA | 9-14 AUGUST 2023

## ROUND TABLE TITLE:

### GENDERED EXCLUSION - HISTORY OF MARGINALITIES IN SEARCH OF A PARADIGM SHIFT: VOICES FROM ANTHROPOLOGY AND BEYOND IN SEARCH OF A PUBLIC METAPHOR

**CONVENOR: PROF. SHALINA MEHTA**

**MODERATOR: DR. HARINDER SANDHU**

#### ABSTRACT

The fundamental premise of UIAF-WAC-23 is anthropology in public sphere: indigeneity, social justice, sustainability, and global peace. Just a cursory reading would suggest that it is an ambitious agenda and a tall order. The conversations that it proposes to generate are challenged by inequalities, warfare, economic crisis, and identity conundrum that draws its inspiration from narrow interpretations of religion, race, ethnicity, and vague notions of biological determinism. The pursuit of social justice must transcend to a paradigm shift that could challenge multiple narratives of exclusion. In each of these aspirational constructs, gendered exclusion acquires primacy of challenge because it addresses more than half of the humanity. In a report presented by IESOGI[1] to the 47th Human rights council in the 76th UN general assembly, this challenge is pithily summarised as: "strict gender norms are at the root of social inequality in all societies across the globe". Histories of marginalization and gendered exclusion revert to early phases of human civilization when sociality started defining specified roles. There is consensus that this marginalization was further accentuated during colonization that destroyed several precolonial notions of gender parity. Opposition to perceived notions of gender ideology or gender agenda, emanates from post-colonial desire from a section of the society to control. It also reflects on legalized state system's abject failure to thwart these attempts. This round table seeks to raise these concerns and discuss imperatives needed immediately for bringing about a paradigm shift to address gendered exclusion. Voices from different disciplines will come together to have a detailed discussion and develop interdisciplinary perspective on changes required in legal vision and communication strategies. To evolve a public metaphor of equality that removes tainted lenses and recognises power of marginalized gendered agencies is the call of the hour!

**Keywords:** Gendered marginalities, paradigm shift, public metaphor

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## SPEAKERS

- **Prof. Maheshvari Naidu, Professor in Anthropology & Tariro Mukwidigwi, Post-Doctoral Fellow, School of Social Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal. South Africa**
  - Title of Presentations: Embodied spatiality: Mapping Gendered Access and Women's 'Right to the City'
- **Prof. Manvinder Kaur, Professor & Dr. Ameer Sultana, Associate Professor Dept-cum-Centre for Women's studies and Development (DCWSD), Panjab University, Chandigarh.**
  - Title of the Presentation: Climate change, adaptation, and action: why women's inclusion matters
- **Manjit Monga, Research and Teaching Academic, The University of South Australia.**
  - Title of the presentation: Exclusion of women in business and management: need for a paradigm shift.
- **Dr. Harinder M. Sandhu, Associate professor, Department of Psychology, Mata Sundari college, Delhi**
  - Title of the Presentation: Gendered exclusion: a continuous reality.
- **Prof. Pampa Mukhrjee, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Political Science, Hon. Director-Centre for Midwest and Central Asia, Panjab University.**
  - Title of the Presentation: Gender, Land and Power of the Collective in Punjab: Towards a Paradigm Shift
- **Prof. Mini Bhattacharyya Thakur, Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University, Guwahati-781014**
  - Title of the Presentation: As one ages, What Changes? A Gendered Understanding of Social Exclusion Among the Elderly in Guwahati City, Assam
- **Prof. Rama Baru, Professor, Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.**
  - Title of Presentation: Gendered hierarchies and exclusion in healthcare work in India: intersections of class, caste, and religion
- **Prof. Shalina Mehta (Convener), Prof. of Social and Cultural Anthropology (retd.) Former Chair, Department of Anthropology, Panjab University, Chandigarh.**
  - Title of the Presentation: Gendered Exclusion in Mental Health Discourse and practise: Need for a Paradigm Shift

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