

CROSS-CULTURAL SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

This month brings the anniversary of the Ibadan Conference, which started this Newsletter. It is appropriate to look back and decide how the Newsletter is doing. In three months, we will complete a full year of Newsletter activity. Are we succeeding or failing? Your editor's judgment is that we are failing. True enough, we do have a "readership" of 500 plus, we have enough money, etc., but the crucial ingredient of this Newsletter is not present.

In Ibadan we felt the need for a Newsletter that would give a voice to psychologists from Africa and other parts of the world where psychological journals are not frequently issued. In this most important respect the Newsletter is failing. There have been practically no communications received from Africa, very few from Asia (mostly India) and very few from Latin America. In fact, there have been very few from Europe. A content analysis of the Newsletter will undoubtedly show that most of the information is sent by Americans concerning their activities. This was not the intended purpose of this Newsletter. Unless this situation can be drastically modified in the next six months, it may be useless to continue.

So, cross-cultural social psychologists from Africa, Asia and other continents: If you want this Newsletter to go on let us know what you are doing.

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NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS

Title: Foreign Student Adaptation Project

Investigators: Milton H. Miller, A. A. Alexander, and Marjorie H. Klein (Research Associate, Wisconsin Psychiatric Inst., The Univ of Wisconsin, Medical Center, 1300 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin 53706)

Abstract: The objectives of this program are:

1) to study cross-cultural adaptation patterns of foreign students who have come to the United States, and to examine the relationship of these patterns to attainment of educational, professional and personal goals, areas of stress, and processes of personality and attitude change. It is assumed that by identifying the cultural, social and psychological concomitants of adaptational styles, that standardized measures and techniques for prediction and preventive intervention can be developed;

2) to develop within the disciplines of psychiatry, psychology, sociology, etc., personnel trained to work with cross-cultural groups both as research scientists and as teachers and counselors;

3) to establish effective research and research training liason with foreign universities, both to facilitate international research by providing control and follow-up data, and to offer field research training opportunities for American and foreign scholars.

Title: The Changing Concept of Caste in India: the study of changes of Inter-Caste Attitudes

Investigators: Dr. Santokh S. Anant (University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada)

Abstract: The Indian Constitution of 1950 included provisions abolishing untouchability and securing equal rights to all citizens irrespective of caste, creed, religion or sex. In a highly stratified society like India, these provisions meant revolutionary changes in the inter-caste relations. This investigation is planned to study the effect of this and other factors (e.g. spread of education, industrialization, increased mobility, etc.) on the age-old institution of caste. Taking a 1950-51 UNESCO Project as the base-line, the changes in inter-caste attitudes will be examined through the review of the relevant literature from 1950 onward and through collection of questionnaire data during Summer 1968 and again during Summer 1970.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APPEALS

Professor F. R. Wickert, Department of Psychology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48823, informs us about the international biological program that will be of interest to the readers of this Newsletter:

"The International Biological Program, a tremendous, international, five-year, cooperative effort beginning 1 January 1968 to conduct research on a wide-range of large and small scale biological problems that recognize no national boundaries, belatedly, through the suggestions of biologists in Australia and South Africa, asked psychologists to participate. Especially with respect to human biology, biologists came to recognize the significance of social psychological factors in data collection as well as in other facets of the program.

"One of the first steps in planning is to prepare a Handbook on research methods to be followed. Uniform methods are needed in order to insure as high a degree of uniformity in data collection as possible. Comparability of data collected in various parts of the world is essential to the design of the program.

"A working party of psychologists spent a week in September 1967 in London developing the framework of the psychological aspects of the Handbook. The four psychological sections proposed are: (1) neurophysiology; (2) motor-perceptual functioning; (3) the higher cognitive processes; and (4) demographic, sociological, anthropological, and psychological "control" information adequately to identify human samples. Subcommittees of the London working party are working on each of these four sections.

"As an example of the kind of thing being utilized, Alex Inkeles has given permission to use his "Modernity Scale" (Sociometry, 1966, 29, 353-377) for "control" situations in which it is appropriate. Handbook copy is to be completed by February, 1968, at the latest. Social psychologists working on cross-cultural research may well be interested in the Handbook because of the social psychological aspects of what on the surface would appear to have little or no relevance for them."

Several universities initiated new programs of foreign affairs research at the start of the 1967-68 academic year. At COLUMBIA, the School of International Affairs created the South Asian Institute and named Howard Wriggins as its director. Mr. Wriggins is a former member of the Department of State Policy Planning Council and more recently served as a senior staff member of the National Security Council. The Institute's major purposes are the preparation of graduate students for careers

as specialists on the major regions of Southern Asia and the encouragement of research and publication in social sciences and humanities relating to the area.

COLUMBIA also has established the Institute of Urban Environment, with Charles Abrams as director. The Institute will conduct research and training projects in housing and urban development, with emphasis on world problems. Among its projects in international research are the preparation of a handbook on planning, design, and building techniques in developing countries, a study of world urban land problems and policies, and a book on planning techniques for small European countries. The Institute will also assist the United Nations in programs of development as requested. The Institute is funded by a \$400,000 Ford Foundation grant.

At SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY, the Department of Psychology and the Program of East African Studies have launched a research and training program in cross-cultural psychology, with a 3-year grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Marshall H. Segal of the Department of Psychology is director of the program, which involves facilities at both Syracuse and Makerere University College in Uganda. The program will provide for the maintenance of an undergraduate program in social psychology at Makerere and enable Syracuse students and faculty to conduct research in Uganda.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY has announced the creation of the Center for Research in International Studies, to be headed by Robert Rosenzweig, Associate Dean of the Graduate Division. The Center is designed to stimulate and encourage the development of new approaches to research in international studies, particularly those of a multidisciplinary nature. It administers the procurement and allocation of funds for international studies research at the University, as well as Stanford's overseas educational and research programs. An executive board of senior faculty members and administrative officers constitutes the policymaking body for the Center. Principal financial support comes from the University and the Ford Foundation.

The Center for Comparative Studies in Technological Development and Social Change at the UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA was established in June 1967. Under the direction of Robert T. Holt, the Center will engage in research on the political basis of economic development, urbanization in developing areas, the family as a decision-making unit, and theoretical work concentrating on a formulation of social change theories. The Center is receiving financial support from the Ford Foundation and the University.

The Third International Human Relations Laboratory was announced by the European Institute for Trans-National Studies in Group and Organizational Development, 19, Valkendorfsgrde, 1151 Copenhagen K, Denmark. It will take place from March 17 to March 29, 1968.

Dr. Henri Tajfel, Professor of Social Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Bristol, 8-10 Berkeley Square, Bristol 8, just sent the following two announcements:

"Applications are invited for the post of an S.S.R.C. SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW whose duties will consist of organising training for research in the psychological aspects of social change in the developing countries, and of supervising a small group of postgraduate students who will do their research in this field. The work will involve some research supervision overseas. The appointment will be for two years in the first instance. Salary in the range: 1470-2630 (plus F.S.S.U.) p.a., according to qualifications and experience. The successful candidate will be expected to have had experience of psychological research in one or more of the developing countries. Further particulars from: Professor H. Tajfel. Closing date for applications 29 February, 1968.

"Training for Research in the Psychological Aspects of Social Change in the Developing Countries"

"The training scheme is based on two grants (each from Sept. 1968 to Sept. 1970), one from the Social Science Research Council, and one from the Nuffield Foundation. The plans are as follows:

"A Senior Research Fellow will be appointed as from September 1968 to take charge of the scheme. He will be someone who has had direct experience of psychological research in one or more of the developing countries. He will be in charge of about six postgraduate students (from Britain and from the Commonwealth countries). The students will spend their first year at the University of Bristol, and their second year doing research in the field (in their native countries in the case of the Commonwealth students). Their research will be presented for a higher degree thesis in the University of Bristol.

"The duties of the Senior Research Fellow during the first year will be to organise a course of seminars (taking advantage in addition of the existing relevant facilities in various Departments of the University), to attend to the individual teaching needs of the students, and to define and outline with each of them his research problem. He will also establish contacts with the universities and research institutions in the countries where the students will conduct their research during the second year. In that second year, he will continue to supervise the research by keeping constantly in touch with the students and by visiting them from time to time in the field. During that year, he will also begin to make arrangements for the selection and research projects of the second group of students who, it is hoped, will begin their training in September 1970. Applications will be made at the beginning of that year for funds to continue the scheme.

"A Chair of Social Psychology has just been established in the University of Bristol, and the Senior Research Fellow will find in the Department all the help that he may require to organise his work. In addition, Departments of Education, Mental Health and Sociology in the University have expressed their interest in the scheme and their willingness to help within the limits of their present facilities."

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TRAVEL PLANS

Dr. S. S. Anant of the Department of Psychology at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, sent the following schedule of his forthcoming trip:

1. Delhi (University of Delhi) - April 29 - May 4 and June 3-10, 1968.
2. Agra (Institute of Social Sciences) - May 6-8, 1968.
3. Varanasi (Gandhian Institute of Studies) - May 14-17, 1968.
4. Bhubaneswar (Utkal University) - May 20-22, 1968.
5. Mysore (Mysore University) - May 24-25, 1968.
6. Hyderabad (Siet Institute) - May 27-29, 1968.
7. Jodhpur (University of Jodhpur) - May 31 - June 1, 1968.

Dr. Joshua A. Fishman, University Research Professor of Social Sciences, Yeshiva University, has been invited to spend the 1968-69 academic year as a Senior Specialist at the East-West Center, University of Hawaii. Dr. Fishman will chair an interdisciplinary group of four scholars (drawn from social psychology, linguistics

and political science), two coming from the United States and two from Asian countries. Dr. Fishman and his associates will devote themselves to studying and planning research on the language problems of the developing nations.

Dr. Jacob Hautaluoma of the Department of Psychology, Colorado State University at Fort Collins, Colorado 80521, has accepted a position with the Peace Corps for three months (March-June) in Afghanistan.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

Wickert, F. R. (Ed.) Readings in African Psychology from French Language Sources. East Lansing (Michigan): African Studies Center, 1967. Pp. 381.

Anyone planning psychological or related behavioral science research in ex-French Africa should consult this volume for English translations of the cream of French-language writings in this area. Some of the research reported, especially on applied topics and research methodology, is quite good. Other items may not say much for the quality of some of the work done in Africa. Nevertheless, the materials are now collected and made generally accessible.

Dawson, J. L. M. Traditional versus western attitudes in West Africa: the construction, validation, and application of a measuring device. (Department of Philosophy and Psychology, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong) The British Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology, 1967, 6, Part 2, pp. 81-96.

Dawson, J. L. M. Kwashiorkor, Gynaecomastia, and Feminization Process. Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 1966, 69, pp. 175-179.

Dawson, J. L. M. Cultural and physiological influences upon spatial-perceptual processes in West Africa, Part I. International Journal of Psychology, 1967, 2, No. 2, pp. 115-128.

Dawson, J. L. M. Cultural and Physiological influences upon spatial-perceptual processes in West Africa, Part II. International Journal of Psychology, 1967, 2, No. 3, pp. 171-185.

DiRenzo, Gordon J. Personality, Power, and Politics. (South Bend-Mishawaka Campus, Northside Boulevard at Greenlawn, Indiana University, South Bend, Indiana 46615) South Bend, Indiana: University of Notre Dame Press, 1967.

Ramos, Edith (Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro, Brasil), de Solis, Vivien Rivera (Universidad Rodrigo Facio, Costa Rica (San Jose). An intellectual orientation among students. (At present they are in the Human Resources Research and Training Institute, Albertson, Long Island, as Researchers Consultant.) XI Interamerican Congress of Psychology, Mexico City.

Lonner, Walter J. (615 NW 5th, Apt. 9, Corvallis, Oregon) The SVIB Visits German, Austrian, and Swiss Psychologists, American Psychologist, March, 1968.

Lonner, Walter J. Cross-Cultural Measurement of Vocational Interests. Thesis, University of Minnesota, December, 1967. The thesis reports the use of the Strong Vocational Interest Blank in German-speaking countries.

Al-Issa, Ihsan and Dennis, Wayne. (Departments of Psychology, University of Calgary, Canada, and Brooklyn College) Cultural orientations and the use of common objects in Iraq. The Journal of Psychology, 1967, 66, 315-319.

Al-Issa, Ihsan Effects of Literacy and schizophrenia on verbal abstraction in Iraq. The Journal of Social Psychology, 1967, 71, 39-43.

Bazzoui, Widad and Al-Issa, Ihsan. Psychiatry in Iraq. The British Journal of Psychiatry, 112, No. 489, 1966.

Al-Issa, Ihsan Word definition in chronic schizophrenia. Psychological Reports, 1966, 19, 934, Southern Universities Press, 1966.

Schoeffler, M. S. and Sheridan, J. A.
Laboratory studies related to subscriber international dialling.
HET PTT-BEDRIJF, 1967, 15, 75-82.

Triandis, Harry C. and Vassiliou, Vasso. A comparative analysis of subjective culture. Technical Report No. 55, October, 1967, Urbana, Illinois: Group Effectiveness Research Laboratory, University of Illinois.

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