



EXPERT COMMITTEE

Prof Gracious Thomas
School of Social Work
IGNOU, Delhi

Dr. D.K.Lal Das
R.M College
Hyderabad

Prof. P.K.Ghosh
Department of Social Work
Visva Bharti University
Shantiniketan

Prof. C.P.Singh
Department of Social Work
Kurukshetra University

Mr. Joselyn Lobo
Roshni Nilaya
Mangalore

Prof. Ranjann Sehgal
Indore School of Social Work
Indore

Dr. Asiya Naareen
Department of Social Work
Jamia Millia Islamia
University, Delhi

Dr. Bishnu Mohan Dash
B.R.Ambedkar College
Delhi University

Dr. Rose Nembiakkim
School of Social Work
IGNOU, Delhi

Dr. Saumya
School of Social Work
IGNOU, Delhi

Dr. G Mahesh
School of Social Work
IGNOU, Delhi

Dr. N.Ramya
School of Social Work
IGNOU, Delhi

COURSE PREPARATION TEAM

Unit Writers

Prof. Mohd. Shahid

&

Mr. Abul Salim Khan

Dr. Rose Nembiakkim

&

Dr. K.P.Singh

Dr. Joseph Varghese

Course Editors

Prof. Gracious Thomas

Dr. Saumya

Programme Coordinator

Dr. Saumya

PRINT PRODUCTION

Mr. Kulwant Singh
Assistant Registrar (Publication)
SOSW, IGNOU

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UNIT 1 SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION: A DEBATE ON INDIGENISATION Vs. INTERNATIONALISATION

*Mohd. Shahid & Abul Salim Khan**

Structure

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- 1.1 Introduction
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1.0 OBJECTIVES

The beginning of social work education and the quest for its professional development have contributed in enriching its theory and practice. Attempts at defining its contours, coverage and contemporary relevance have also resulted in debates around the nature of its ideologies and their global and local implications. One of these debates is the debate around indigenisation and internationalisation of social work education. After reading this Unit, you will be able to:

- Recapitulate the brief history of social work education
- Develop the conceptual understanding of international social work
- Develop an understanding of indigenous social work
- Acquire ability to reflect on the debate of internationalisation and indigenisation of social work

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The beginning of professional education of social work and the honour of recognition as the very first school of social work world-wide belongs to the Institute for Social Work Training, founded in 1899 in Amsterdam (Kendall, 2000a: 149; Kendall, 2000b), and thereafter the social work education expanded throughout Europe and United States, and onto Africa, Asia and South America. Further the quest for professional status that started in first quarter of twentieth century enormously contributed in developing social work literature. It also witnessed coming of local and global professional associations to regulate and nurture the profession and as also to take up issues specific to geopolitics and cultural contexts. The formation of the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) and the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) gave impetus to the profession in organizing social work practitioners and educators from around the globe at a common platform. These two major international social work associations have also provided leadership in connecting international development

*Prof. Mohd. Shahid & Mr. Abul Salim Khan, MANUU, Hyderabad.

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