

Principal's Address

Dr. Muktaja Mathkari

Greetings from SNDT College of Home Science, Pune!

It is with great pleasure that we are ready with a special issue of the international multidisciplinary peer-reviewed and refereed journal, 'Research Chronicler' to be released during the National Conference 'Harmonizing Humanities and Science', being held on 9th February 2022.

Humanities have always been concerned with human beings, their culture and of course, with a critical enquiry derived from an appropriation of language, literature, history, human values, culture and philosophy, etc. The study of Humanities can be traced in the mid fifth century BCE. Its major thrust was 'Active Citizenship'. Method of investigation of Humanities is and has to be certainly different from that of science. During 19th century, the purview of Humanities expanded and it led to the exclusion of materials and methods of the developing physical sciences as study of science focused on objectivity without reference to the subject 'Human'.

Unfortunately, the separation between Humanities and Science was stretched so far that they were juxtaposed as contradictory to each other. And this is where the problem started. The powerful forces of technology, industrialization, mechanization, materialism, utilitarianism, capitalism and power politics pushed Humanities to a subservient position.

We have reached the 21st century but the 200 years witnessed a lot of damage due to use of science sans morality to a great extent. The general feeling is something has gone wrong somewhere and nothing can put it right. The Science Noble Prizes were always given to people whose research could be applied for the welfare of Humanity. Despite this, the world could not disorient itself from the so called Western advanced thought. Therefore, 'Postcolonial' thought which values disorientation as productive seems very significant at this

point of time. So it is high time that we rethink Humanities and Science and try to harmonize them. The major area of debate can focus in a different context by re-visiting our exploration of the relationship between Science and Humanities.

The National Education Policy-2020 underlines anti-colonial nationalism and encourages the synthesis of the study of Science and Humanities to establish a 'Spiritually heightened', 'enriched' India. Therefore, the theme of the Conference becomes very relevant and significant against this backdrop.

On this occasion, I express my sincere gratitude to our patron Prof. Ujwala Chakradeo, the Hon'ble V.C., SNTD Women's University, to encourage the academic endeavor. I also thank Prof. Nema Shikha, Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, SNTD Women's University and Prof. Sachin Deore, Dean Faculty of Humanities, SNTD Women's University.

I am grateful to the advisory committee members Dr. Supriya Sahasrabudhe, Prof. Shivaji Sargar, Prof. Rajaram Zirange and Prof. Vivek Rankhambe.

This special issue of 'Research Chronicler' contains articles on variety of topics like 'Rethinking Humanities', 'Women entrepreneurship', 'Geriatrics', 'Higher Education', 'Social Change', 'The Science of Nutrition', 'Textile Science', 'Folk Arts', 'Women Social Reformers', 'Social Media', 'Home Science', 'Women's Education' 'Literature' and 'Culture'. I am sure that these articles will certainly be thought provoking and lead the readers and researchers towards a better understanding of the relationship between Science and Humanities. And in future there will be an academically conscious effort to bridge the gap between the two. I wish this conference a great success.

Dr. Muktaja Mathkari

Principal

SNTD College of Home Science, Pune