UGC Sponsored

Two Day National Seminar on

Bio Ethics

24th & 25th January 2007

Venue

Thorale Bajirao Peshwe Sabhagruha
'Jnanadweepa', Thane College Campus,
Chendani, Bunder Road, Thane (W) 400 601.

Dr. (Mrs) S.A. Singh	*Editor-in-chief*
Dr. Padmini Murti	*Executive Editor*
Prof. (Mrs) S.H. Doshi	*Deputy Editor*

Organized by

Vidya Prasarak Mandal's
K. G. Joshi College of Arts &
N. G. Bedekar College of Commerce, Thane

Please Note:
The Authors of the papers are alone responsible for technical content of the papers and references cited therein.

Published by :
Vidya Prasarak Mandal's
K. G. Joshi College of Arts &
N. G. Bedekar College of Commerce
"Jnanadweepa", Chendani, Bunder Road,
Thane (W) 400 601. Maharashtra
Tel. : 2533 24 12 Fax : 2533 24 12
E-mail : nbarse@gmail.com
mensanamographs@yahoo.co.uk
Website : www.vpmthane.org

For Private Circulation Only

Printed at
Perfect Prints
22, Jyoti Industrial Estate,
Nooribaba Darga Road, Thane 400 601.
Tel. : 2534 1291 / 2541 3546
Email : perfectprints@vsnl.net

Chairman's Message

I have great pleasure in presenting this volume of papers presented in the **seminar on BIOETHICS** held under the auspices of VPM's Arts and Commerce College on 24 and 25 January 2007.

All institutes of VPM organize at least one national seminar on a subject which is related to the modern developments in Sciences and Humanities, which may not be a part of their syllabus. This gives an opportunity to students and teachers to interact with experts in the given topic, and learn more about it. We have put all volumes of previous seminars on our website http://www.vpmthane.org for the benefit of students and teachers within and outside the country.

The topic of this year's seminar has aroused interest in the teaching community to learn more about this subject. We already had two workshops on the topic for better understanding and orientation about the subject.

It is relatively a new subject from the point of view of public awareness and public policy making. The subject principally includes ethical questions in relation with biology and medicine, and other disciplines like philosophy, politics, law, and theology. Every country in the world has already formulated laws and guidelines in this respect or is in the process of formulating them. This has given rise to a large amount of academic material. Dozens of academic and popular journals and books are now available on Bioethics. There are specialized undergraduate and postgraduate courses available in the Western universities. Newer medical techniques like IVF, cloning, stem cell research, euthanasia, organ donation etc. are posing newer cultural problems every day. As many of these issues are culture related, there are no simple and standard answers, and every country may have to formulate laws suitable according to its own religion and cultural make up. This requires better education and understanding of this subject, at least among literate people. A mature opinion and consensus in the citizens can influence political leadership to legislate proper laws and provide guidelines to the society at large.

This seminar is a step in that direction, and I am sure the deliberations of two days will help us move forward. I hope this process of inquiry will continue so that at least few students may think of making a career in this subject.

Thanking you for your cooperation and with warm regards.

Dr. Vijay Bedekar
Chairman
Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane

Principal's Message

The life of modern man is becoming difficult, complicated and disturbed at the material, psychological and spiritual levels. He has to face different alternatives, solve complex problems and compromise with difficult situations. His so-called friends, 'science' and 'technology', with all their potential for research and advancement, have given him pleasures and comforts, true. But they have also made him a slave by giving him all sorts of luxuries on the one hand but making him lose his individuality and power of discrimination on the other. He has, moreover, become immune to ethical considerations. He does not know what is 'right' and 'wrong', rather does not want to know the difference between these two concepts. With his 'pragmatic' outlook, whatever helps him is right, whatever suits him is good, and whatever he achieves, and achieves easily, is just. These attitudes influence not only his work and business, but have even percolated to the supposedly most humane of all professions – that of healing the sick and ailing. The medical profession has had its share of problems managing the diseased, but issues and concerns of ethical conduct in medicine have also now started assuming importance.

Bio-ethical Considerations

In such a scenario, bio-ethical considerations have risen to the forefront in the last few decades.

Topics like Suicide, Euthanasia, Abortion, Surrogacy, Cloning, Stem Cell research, Organ-transplantation, Industry Sponsored Research etc. are occupying the consciousness of the modern mind. Let us take a few examples:

· **Suicide** – is it a private act?

Does a man have any right over his death? Plato admitted self-killing under extreme distress, poverty and shame. Aristotle did not agree with Plato and thought of suicide as an act of cowardice and an offence against the State. Epicures suggested ending of life if it ceased to be a pleasure. Stoics gave man permission to live only as long as he wished. The Jewish and Christians thinkers, St. Augustine and St.Thomas, condemned self-killing. Manu disapproved of attending the funeral pyre of a man who ended his life by suicide. How do we explain the Jaina concept of Samlekhana or Hindu concept of Jivant Samadhi? The dilemma is that our obligation to meet the needs and secure the welfare of persons justifies intervention; our obligation to respect the liberty of others requires non-interference.

Questions can be similarly asked about some other bioethical issues of great concern to the modern man:

- **Euthanasia:** Should we allow euthanasia to terminal patients to rid them of their misery and ensure them a dignified exit?
- **Abortion**: Do we have the right to expel the foetus before it is viable? When does a foetus become viable? How do we handle religious prohibition of abortion, which is still seen in many societies?

- **Cloning**: Science has achieved the pinnacle of success by creating a clone but has given rise to a number of ethical problems in the bargain. How far should science be allowed to go in animal / human creation?

- **Organ transplantation** has become extremely useful, almost like getting a new life, but giving enough scope for over-charging, smuggling of organs, organ trading and other mal-practices. How do we handle such issues?

- **Surrogacy**: Can surrogacy be a boon for a childless-couple? Who is the real mother: the childbearing one or the social one? What happens if uteruses are given on hire, or surrogacy becomes one of the professions?

- **Clinical trials** on human beings and animals: has far can we go, and how far is it justified?

    - **Bioethical issues in/with Academia and Industry Connection**: Industry sponsored research and clinical trials; what are the ethical challenges posed by such sponsorship, and how can they be taken care of so the opportunities of biomedical advance are not at the expense of ethical concerns?

    - **Bioethical issues in Stem Cell research**

    - **Bioethical considerations in IVF** (In vitrio fertilization)

Concluding Remarks

On the one hand science and scientific discoveries are struggling to minimize human pain and suffering and trying to get more and more solace and comfort for the human race. But on the other, they are contravening the fundamental rights and status of man both at the personal as well as social level.

Words like 'good', 'bad', 'right', 'wrong', 'useful', 'moral', 'just' etc have either lost their significance or have changed their definitions. The ethical path - whether, as a general pattern or 'way of life', a set of rules of conduct or 'moral code', or an inquiry into ways of living and rules of conduct - this ethical path is itself becoming difficult to follow ethically.

It is high time men as rational, social, emotional and spiritual animals introspect on these problems and try to preserve and promote their identity with due respect to their empirical instincts, rational status and ethical identity in the universe. A dialogue between concerned thinkers and researchers on these issues is very necessary today.

Hence this conference.

Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh
Principal

Message

I have great pleasure in noting that your institution, the Joshi-Bedekar College, Thane, is organising a National Seminar on Bio-ethics on 24-25 Jan 2007.

The topics you propose to cover are extremely timely and important. Suicide, Euthanasia, Surrogacy, Abortion, IVF, Organ Transplantation, Cloning, Stem Cell Research, Medical Ethics are all of great significance, as they impact the lives of many members of society the world over in many significant ways.

I have been happy to be asociated with this initiative right from its inception, and would have loved to accept your kind invitation to address the seminar. Pressing personal commitments prevent me from doing so. However, I take this opportunity to offer my most sincere good wishes for the success of this initiative.

May the deliberations at this National Seminar help chart new paths in our quest for enlightened progress and a more egalitarian society,

I wish the Seminar all success.

Prof.(Dr) N. N Wig
Prof. Emeritus,
Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education
and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh

Committe

Vidya Prasarak Mandal's
K. G. Joshi College of Arts &
N. G. Bedekar College of Commerce, Thane

COMMITTEES FOR THE NATIONAL SEMINAR ON
BIO ETHICS
24th & 25th Jan. 2007

STEERING COMMITTEE

Dr. (Mrs) S.A. Singh	Chair-Person
Prof. (Mrs) Shobha H. Doshi	Co-Ordinator
Prof. (Mrs) L.P. Bhat	
Dr. Padmini Murti	
Prof. (Mrs) U.S. Beke	
Prof. (Mrs) S.A. Naik	
Prof. N.S. Barse	
Prof. C. Kore	

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Prof. (Mrs) L.P. Bhat	Chair-Person
Mrs. M.M. Thete	Registrar
Prof. D.K. Morey	
Prof. Vaibhav Singavi	
Prof. N. Wadhvinde	
Prof. Amit Mohre	
Mr. Parag Shinde	Office

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Dr. (Mrs) S.A. Singh	Chair Person
Prof. (Mrs) S.H. Doshi	
Prof. (Mrs) S.A. Naik	
Prof. Namrata Srivastav	
Prof. Amol Pashankar	
Miss. Deepali Salvi	Office

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Prof. (Mrs) M.M. Deshpande	Chair Person
Prof. (Mrs) Ruchita Rane	
Prof. (Mrs) Rupali Walunjkar	
Miss Yogini Marathe	Office

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Prof. (Mrs) Rani Agnihotri	Chair-Person
Prof. (Mrs) Yashoda Shetty	
Prof. (Mrs) Sindhu Pratap	
Prof. (Ms) Shilpa Bhise	

PUBLICATION

Dr. (Mrs) S.A. Singh	Editor-in-chief
Dr. Padmini Murti	Executive Editor
Prof. (Mrs) S.H. Doshi	Deputy Editor
Prof. (Mrs) P.P. Tokekar	
Prof. (Mrs) A.N. Purandare	
Prof. (Mrs) Ruma Ghosh	

PUBLICITY

Prof. N.S. Barse	Chair-Person
Prof. A.R. Bhabad	
Prof. S.L. Rane	
Prof. S.G. Shinde	
Prof. R.V. Nhawkar	
Prof. P.M. Bachchao	

CATERING COMMITTEE

Prof. D.M. Murdeshwar — Chairperson
Prof. D.P. Sable
Prof. A.D. Dhawale
Prof. (Mrs) S.S.Vaidya
Prof. (Mrs) M.M.Joshi
Prof. (Mrs) Mugdha Keskar
Prof. (Mrs) Mohini Kulkarni
Prof. S. Narkhade

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Prof. A.S. Badgujar — Chairperson
Prof. D.S. Bhide
Prof. S.J. Patil
Prof. (Ms.) R.R. Bahel
Prof. P.T. Kharate
Mr. P.E. Patil
Prof. (Mrs) G.P. Tirmare
Mr. S. Kale
Prof. (Miss) Pinky Advani

STAGE COMMITTEE

Prof. (Mrs) R. Natarajan — Chairperson
Prof. (Mrs) S.R. Nair
Prof. (Mrs) T.N. Sonawane
Prof. P. Waghmare
Prof. T.R. Hedav
Prof. B.P. Desai
Prof. (Mrs) Shreya Ghaisas

RECEPTION & HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Prof. (Mrs) S.A. Braganza — Chairperson
Prof. (Mrs) S.V. Bhide
Prof. Y. Prasade
Prof. (Mrs) S. Dixit
Prof. (Ms) T. Nadgauda
Prof. (Mrs) G. Menenzes
Prof. (Mrs) S.V. Dahiwale
Prof. (Mrs) S.S. Vaidya
Prof. (Mrs) P. Patil
Prof. Priya Dalvi
Prof. Sheila Shrivastav

PROGRAMME FOR THE NATIONAL SEMINAR ON

BIO ETHICS

Wednesday 24th January 2007

9.00 am to 9.45 am		**Registration and Breakfast**
Inaugural Session		*Chairperson: Shri. S. V. Karandikar*
9.45 am to 9.55 am		**Lighting of Lamp, Prayer & Inauguration of the Seminar**
9.55 am to 10.20 am		**Welcome address by Prin. Dr. (Mrs.) S. A. Singh**
10.20 am to 11.00 am		**Key Note address by Dr. Bhuvan Chandel, Member Secretary, Centre for Studies in Civilization, New Delhi**
11.00 am to 11.05 am		**Vote of Thanks Prof (Mrs.) S. H. Doshi**

Tea

SESSION I		*Chairperson: Dr. A. R. Singh* *Co- Chairperson: Dr. Padmini Murti*
11.20 am to 12.20 pm	**Dr. Arun Bal**	***Medical Ethics***
SESSION II		*Chairperson: Dr Bhuvan Chandel* *Co- Chairperson: Prof. (Mrs) S. H. Doshi*
12.20 pm to 12.40 pm	**Dr. Uma Shankar**	***Euthanasia***
12.40 pm to 1.00 pm	**Prof. (Mrs.) Namita Nimbalkar**	***Euthanasia : The Hindu Perspective***

Lunch

SESSION III		*Chairperson: Prof. P. Seshadri* *Co- Chairperson: Prof. (Mrs.) U.S. Beke*
2.00 pm to 2.20 pm	**Dr. Trevor Allis**	***Surrogate Arrangements: Market of Living Laboratories***
2.20 pm to 2.40 pm	**Dr. Amita Valmiki**	***Abortion: Rethinking and Revisited***
SESSION IV		*Chairperson: Dr. (Mrs) Shakuntala A. Singh* *Co- Chairperson: Dr. (Mrs) M. K. Pejaver*
2.45 pm to 3.45 pm	**Dr. Firuza Parikh**	***In Vitro Fertilization / Abortion / Cloning***

Tea

SESSION V		*Chairperson: Dr. Utpala Mody* *Co- Chairperson: Prof. Narayan Barse*
4.00 pm to 4.20 pm	**Dr. Tabassum Sheikh**	***Ethics of In Vitro Fertilization***
	Ms. Kiranmayi Vemuri	***In Vitro Fertilization***
4.30 pm onwards	**Skits**	

Thursday 25th January 2007

9.00 am to 9.30 am		**Breakfast**
SESSION I		*Chairperson: Dr. A. R. Singh* *Co-Chairperson: Prof. (Mrs.) L. P. Bhat*
9.30 am to 10.30 am	**Dr. Sunil Pandya**	***Medical Ethics in India Today: Concerns and possible solutions***
SESSION II		*Chairperson: Prin. (Mrs.) J. Srividya* *Co-Chairperson: Prof. D.M. Murdeshwar*
10.30 am to 11.30 am	**Justice M.F. Saldanha**	***Bio-Ethics and Law***

Tea

SESSION III		*Chairperson: Dr. Sunil Pandya* *Co- Chairperson: Prof. (Mrs) S. H. Doshi*
11.45 am to 12.45 pm	**Dr. A. R. Singh**	***Medicine and the Pharmaceutical industry***
SESSION IV		*Chairperson: Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh* *Co- Chairperson: Prof. (Ms) Chhaya Kore*
12.45 pm to 1.05 pm	**Dr. Kokila Shah**	***The Jain Concept of Samlekhana: A Loss or A Gain?***
1.05 pm to 1.25 pm	**Dr. Utpala Mody**	***Samlekhana is a step towards Self-realization***

Lunch

SESSION V		*Chairperson: Dr. Uma Shankar* *Co- Chairperson: Prof. (Mrs.) S. A. Naik*
2.20 pm to 2.40 pm	**Prof. P. Seshadri**	***Organ Transplantation***
2.40 pm to 3.00 pm	**Ms. Biraj Mehta**	***The Problem of Human Cloning and Multiplicity***
3.00 pm to 3.15 pm	**Ms. Shruthi Alluri**	***Organ Transplantation***
	Ms. Amrutha Bhupathiraju	***Cloning***
	Ms. Himaja Vedula	***Bioethics of Cloning***
3.15 pm to 4.00 pm	**Skits**	

Tea

SESSION VI

4.15 pm onwards **Concluding Session**

Chairperson's Remarks ***Prin. Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala A. Singh***

Delegates' comments

Vote of Thanks ***Prof. (Mrs.) S. H. Doshi***

C O N T E N T S

1 **Medical Ethics in India Today: Concerns and Possible Solutions** **1**
Sunil K. Pandya

2 **Towards A Suicide Free Society** **4**
Ajai R. Singh

3 **Transplantation – Some Critical Issues** **14**
P. Seshadri

4 **Surrogate Arrangements: Market of Living Laboratories** **19**
Trevor Allis

5 **Abortion: Rethinking and Revisited** **24**
Amita Valmiki

6 **Euthanasia** **28**
Uma Shankar

7 ***Samlekhana* is a Step Towards Self-realization** **31**
Utpala Mody

8 **Ethics Of Invitro Fertilization (IVF)** **34**
Tabassum Shaikh

9 **Bioethics of Cloning** **39**
Himaja Vedula

10 **The Problem Of Human Cloning And Multiplicity** **43**
Biraj Mehta

11 **The Jain Concept Of Sallekhana : A Loss Or a Gain ?** **50**
Kokila H. Shah

12 **Euthanasia: The Hindu Perspective** **55**
Namita Nimbalkar

13 **IN VITRO FERTILIZATION** **59**
Kiranmayi Vemuri

14 **Stem Cell Research** **62**
M. Pavani

15 **Cloning** **63**
Amrutha Bhupathiraju

16 **Organ Transplantation** **64**
Shruthi Alluri

17 **Technological Development and Ethical Dilemmas Faced by Modern World** **65**
Maria Norma Menezes