

**National Identity and Inter-Group Conflict:  
Causes and Interventions**

Kathmandu  
2–3 October 2008

Program Organizer



Nepal-German Academic Association (NEGAAS)

[www.negaas.org.np](http://www.negaas.org.np)

Co-Organizer/Event Manager



Social Science Research Foundation (SOSREF)

[www.sosref.org.np](http://www.sosref.org.np)

with

Baneswor Unesco Associationn (BUNA) and  
Kathmandu Model Research Foundation (KMRF)

Supported by

**DAAD**

German Academic Exchange Service

**On the Completion of 50 Years of  
Nepal-German Diplomatic Relations**

We Proudly Announce

**A Two-Day Workshop**

on

**National Identity and Inter-Group Conflict:  
Causes and Interventions**

Kathmandu  
2–3 October 2008

Principal Resource Person:

Prof. Dr. Ulrich Wagner  
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Philipps University Marburg, Germany  
[www.uni-marburg.de](http://www.uni-marburg.de) with

Core Team:

Prof. Anand Aditya (Chief Advisor, SOSREF) Moderator  
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**WORKSHOP**  
on  
**National Identity and Inter-Group Conflict:  
Causes and Interventions**  
**Kathmandu**  
**2–3 October 2008**

**About the Program**

National integration and solidarity play a fundamental role in the fight against poverty, exclusion, and conflict for change and development, and advocacy of these two values will go a long way in empowering and recognizing groups and communities together with consolidation of national identity. On the completion of 50 years of Nepal-German diplomatic relations, Nepal German Academic Association (NEGAAS), a forum of scholars educated in Germany dedicated to promoting bilateral academic relations, and Social Science Research Foundation (SOSREF), a non-profit distribution trust dedicated to the development of research culture in Nepal and the region, with support from DAAD Germany are holding a two-day seminar-cum-workshop on 2-3 October 2008 ‘National Identity and Inter-Group Conflict: Causes and Interventions.’

**Settings**

Layers of conflicts, diverse in their nature and origins, prevail in everyday life in a subtle or open way. In many cases, these conflicts emerge from differences in material, ideological, and political interests, stakes, and roles. However, most of them are linked with the identity of the groups involved which ultimately intensifies the conflict and makes conflict resolution process more difficult. Left unaddressed for long, these inter-group conflicts and their consequences are really creating havoc in the society. With this in perspective, the workshop will focus on different causes of inter-group conflicts identified by socio-psychological research. It will also discuss the applicability of the relevant theories in settling the ongoing conflicts in Nepal with special focus on the preventive and reductive measures for inter-group conflicts through inter-group contact and training on inter-cultural competencies.

**Objectives**

The primary objective of the program is to enhance participants' knowledge and skills in inter-group conflict transformation helpful for national integration.

**Methodology**

The workshop will be based on presentation of scientific inputs followed by group discussions. It will begin with a brief introduction to inter-group conflict theory with some examples. Then participants can add their views on various kinds of inter-group conflicts relevant to Nepal based on their experiences and relevance of scientific concepts to understand these conflicts. In the second session, possibilities of preventing and reducing inter-group conflicts will be presented with a special focus on inter-group contact theory and the development of inter-cultural competencies. To wrap up the program, participants will be requested to discuss the applicability of these interventions to inter-group conflicts in Nepal.

**Resource Person**

The program will be facilitated by a celebrated German Researcher on Social Identity and Inter-Group Conflict, Prof. Dr. Ulrich Wagner, who heads the Department of Psychology at Philipps University, Marburg. He is Director of the Centre for Conflict Studies and Speaker of the PhD Graduate Schools. His research interests and areas of specialization are inter-group relations and inter-group aggression.

**Registration**

On the completion of 50 Years of Nepal-German diplomatic relations, the event organizers cordially invite you for your valuable participation in the program. Please visit [http://www.sosref.org.np/my\\_file/5.doc](http://www.sosref.org.np/my_file/5.doc) to download the form and send it to the program coordinator [thaneswor@wlink.com.np](mailto:thaneswor@wlink.com.np) for registration process.

**Outcome Expected**

The participants will understand the dynamics of inter-group conflict, and its causes and remedies and will be affiliated in a roster of like-minded researchers for future work in line with professional development and contribution to the society.

**Program Organizer: NEGAAS with SOSREF**

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