



**Bharatiya Vidya  
Bhawan**  
Promoting  
**SANSKRIT & SANSKRITI**  
Since 1938

**A ONE DAY  
NATIONAL SEMINAR  
ON  
CRITICAL THEORY  
AND PRACTICES**

**4th April, 2018**



**Organised by**

**Bhavan's Leelavati Munshi College of Education (BLMCE)  
Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan  
Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi- 110001**

**Website : [blmce.ac.in](http://blmce.ac.in)  
Email : [seminarblmce@gmail.com](mailto:seminarblmce@gmail.com)**

## **Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan**

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan is a registered society and a Charitable Trust founded in 1938 by Dr K M Munshi, a far-sighted visionary and a practical idealist, along with three of his close associates with the blessings of Mahatma Gandhi to preserve and propagate Sanskrit, the mother of languages. Over the years the Bhavan has steadily grown into a comprehensive, co-operative national movement, with an international outlook, for the promotion of ethical and spiritual values and Indian cultural heritage in the last 78 years through its 367 institutions across India and 7 centres abroad, staff strength of over 6000 and student base of about 3,00,000. It is probably the largest Non-governmental and Charitable organization in the country. Bhavan seeks to inculcate values based life through comprehensive educational institutions from kindergarten to post-graduate education with focus on Sanskrit and Vedic studies, Dance, Drama and Music, Arts, Science, Commerce, Engineering, Management, Sociology, Life and Health Sciences; and Publications which cover a wide range and variety of subjects amalgamating ancient and modern thought.

## **Bhavan's Leelavati Munshi College of Education (BLMCE)**

The college is the newest addition in the galaxy of institutions under Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan. It was established in 2016 with recognition from NCTE and is affiliated to Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi. Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, a Charitable Institution and genuinely serving the cause of education, established this college in order to cater to the ever expanding requirements of quality teachers and educators who can bring about a transformative change in the lives and personalities of future teachers thereby impacting future generations.

## **About the Seminar**

### **Critical Theory and Practices: Concept Note**

Transformation of individuals from 'Passive recipients' of knowledge to 'Active constructors' of knowledge in a democratic environment should be the sole aim of education. To achieve this aim elements of critical thinking, self-reflection, the ability to analyse and question play a crucial role.

These 'critical elements' have been highlighted by the pioneers of 'Critical Theory' such as Hebert Marcuse, Theodor Adorno, Max Horkheimer, Walter Benjamin and Erich Fromm to explain the changes which are required to be brought up so as to make the process and the product of education a fruitful one.

Critical Theory as the term suggests is a 'critical' or a significant theory which puts emphasis on the need to look at things from a critical perspective where your thinking is not restricted to limits and there is freedom to look beyond with an analytical view.

Having its roots in the Frankfurt School, established in Frankfurt, Germany in 1923, this theory was a reaction to the scientism of Positive sociology on one hand and on the other hand as an attempt to develop a general theoretical approach which combines theory and practise.

Critical theory is based on the assumption that the power of the capitalism has come to dominate all aspects of both social life and the mechanisms of social control in the society.

It sought to explain the failure of Marxism to bring about a social revolution, it challenges received notions of reality, seeking to demonstrate the ways in which our conceptions are socially constructed. Critical Theory is reflexive that is, it is aware that the "reality" that we experience "out there" does not exist independently of ideology, but that it is shaped (along with our perceptions of it) by forces of power and hegemony that have a human agency. These forces continually try to control all the means of shaping society and its belief system - Education, the Media, Religion, the Law, Planning Regulations, and the Economy etc.

They do so to reproduce their own version of reality, their own economic, social and cultural supremacy - their hegemonies. Critical Theory places All Beliefs, Realities, Values etc. in their social and economic context and asks, “who stands to gain from society seeing things this way? It then looks to discover how the beneficiaries of the system have created the system to benefit themselves at the expense of others. Critical Theory looks at the ways in which political ideology shapes Education as a way of maintaining existing regimes of privilege and social control. It casts a critical eye upon the history, the development and practice of education and educational theorising.

Critical Theory promotes an ideology of education as an instrument of social transformation and as a means of attaining social, cultural, and economic equity.

In the light of the significant views propagated by the Critical theory this seminar aims to provide a platform where teacher educators, teachers, researchers and students, can engage in discussions and fruitful exchanges on the above mentioned theme.

### **Objectives of the Seminar:**

1. To understand the theoretical underpinnings focusing on the growth, development and significance of critical theory in the field of education.
2. To explore the views and experiences of teachers who are incorporating significant elements of critical pedagogy in their classroom teaching-learning and other transactional activities.
3. To deliberate upon the views of students and teachers on how to promote critical thinking skills and their importance for the learners as well as the teachers.
4. To understand how the elements of critical consciousness can be instilled in the thinking of individuals.

### **Sub-themes of the Seminar:**

- Meaning, Nature and Significance of Critical Theory
  - Evolution of Critical Theory
- Contemporary trends in Critical Theory
  - Critical Theory and Education
- Critical pedagogy in Indian Classroom
  - Teacher as a critical Pedagogue
- Critical Pedagogy and Critical Thinking
- Critical Pedagogy and Teacher Education
  - Textbooks and Critical Thinking
  - ICT and Critical Thinking
- Drama in education and Critical Thinking
- Strategies to promote Critical Thinking
- Scope of innovation in Critical Pedagogy
  - Critical theory and Indian Ethos
  - Critical Theory and Curriculum
  - Critical Thinking and Evaluation
    - Critical Consciousness

### **Call for Papers**

Research papers are invited from Educators, Teacher-educators, Academicians, Researchers and Students on the above mentioned theme in the form of:

- Paper presentations
- Poster presentations

The participants interested in participating in the seminar are requested to submit their Abstract along with the Registration Form by 25th March, 2018. Full papers should reach by 1st April 01, 2018 at the following email id:

[seminarblmce@gmail.com](mailto:seminarblmce@gmail.com)

### **For further details please contact:**

Dr. Shalini Gupta: +91 7042323284  
Ms. Roopali Charan: +91 9810688200

## **Programme Structure :**

- **Registration**
- **Inaugural Session :-**  
**Key Note Address :**

**Prof. Shyam B. Menon,**  
**Vice Chancellor, Ambedkar University, Delhi**

### **Guest-of-Honour:**

**Prof J S Rajput (Retd.),**  
**Former Director, NCERT, New Delhi**

- **Technical Sessions**
- **Lunch**
- **Technical Sessions**
- **Valedictory Session**

**Valedictory Address: Mohd. Akhtar Siddiqui,**  
**Prof. Retd. JMI, Ex NCTE Chairperson**

### **Registration Fees:**

**Educators– Rs 400/-**  
**Research Scholars - Rs 300/-**

### **Venue:**

**K M Munshi Memorial Hall**  
**BULMIM Main Block, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan**  
**(entry Gate No: 4, Copernicus Lane)**  
**Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi- 110001**

### **Organising Committee:-**

#### **Patron-in-Chief**

**Shri. Ashok Pradhan (IAS Retd.),**  
**Director, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (D.K.)**  
**Former Secretary, Govt. of India**

#### **Patron:**

**Shri. A.S.Awasthi (IAS Retd.),**  
**Registrar, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (D.K.)**  
**Former Director, Directorate of Higher Education,**  
**Founder Registrar GGSIPU**

#### **Convener**

- **Dr. Geetika Dutta, Principal, BLMCE**

#### **Co-Conveners**

- **Dr. Shalini Gupta, Asst. Prof. BLMCE**  
**Ph: +91 7042323284**
- **Ms. Roopali Charan, Asst. Prof. BLMCE**  
**Ph: +91 9810688200**
- **Ms. Bhageshwari Sharma Asst. Prof. BLMCE**  
**Ph: +91 9582829361**