



Embracing Diversity: Ripple Effects on Peace and Human Security

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Symposium on Embracing Diversity:
Seeking multicultural values and mutual understanding

Migration , Conflicts and Diversity

Migration and Conflicts Vs Migration and Diversity

- Mekong Sub region presents its unique cultural diversity and livelihood integration

Migration and Conflicts

- As Economic Integration intensified Cultural Integration started facing the heat
- Migration in the region is not new and then why is it a problem these days as in other regions of the world

Migration and Diversity

- Futuristic, positive and integrative
- Cultural Assimilation is at risk
- Social capital

Peace and Human Security

Global Economic Integrative Process and Intesified spacial dispersal – migration

- Forced migrations / Distress Migrations
- Identity becomes the centre stage of discussions
- Presents a wrong picture that identities are irreconcilable
- Peace and Harmony gets destabilised
- Human Insecurity (survival, livelihood and dignity) threats / Unfreedoms
- Is migration the cause of conflicts or our hyper attribution to identity and cultural differences?
- Politics of identity

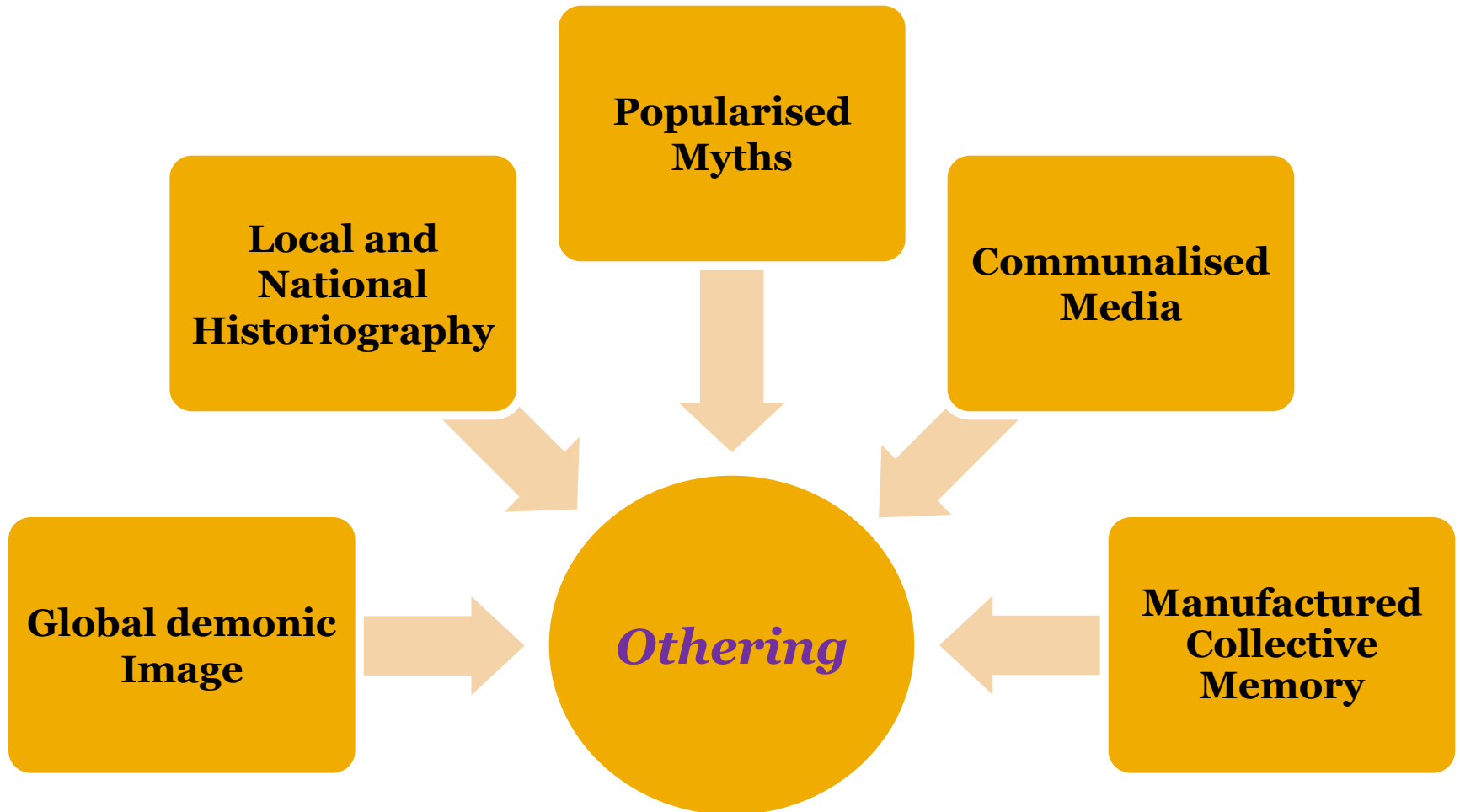
Religion-wise distribution of Population in India

Religion	Population	Percentage
Hindu	827,578,868	80.5
Muslim	138,188,240	13.4
Christian	24,080,016	2.3
Sikh	19,215,730	1.9
Buddhist	7,955,207	0.8
Jain	4,225,053	0.4
Parsis	69601	Neg*
Others	6,570,025	0.6
Total	1,028,610,328	100.0

**The percentage of Parsi population to the total population is as negligible as 0.007%
Source: Census 2001*

The conceptual understanding

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Addressing Diversity

Affirmative actions and other Protective measures for Dalits (Lower Castes)

- Reservations in education and jobs
- Atrocities Act
- Social Movements and rights groups
- **Religious Minorities esp Muslims**
- No religion based reservations
- Some supportive mechanisms in education and employment
- Minimal policy initiatives

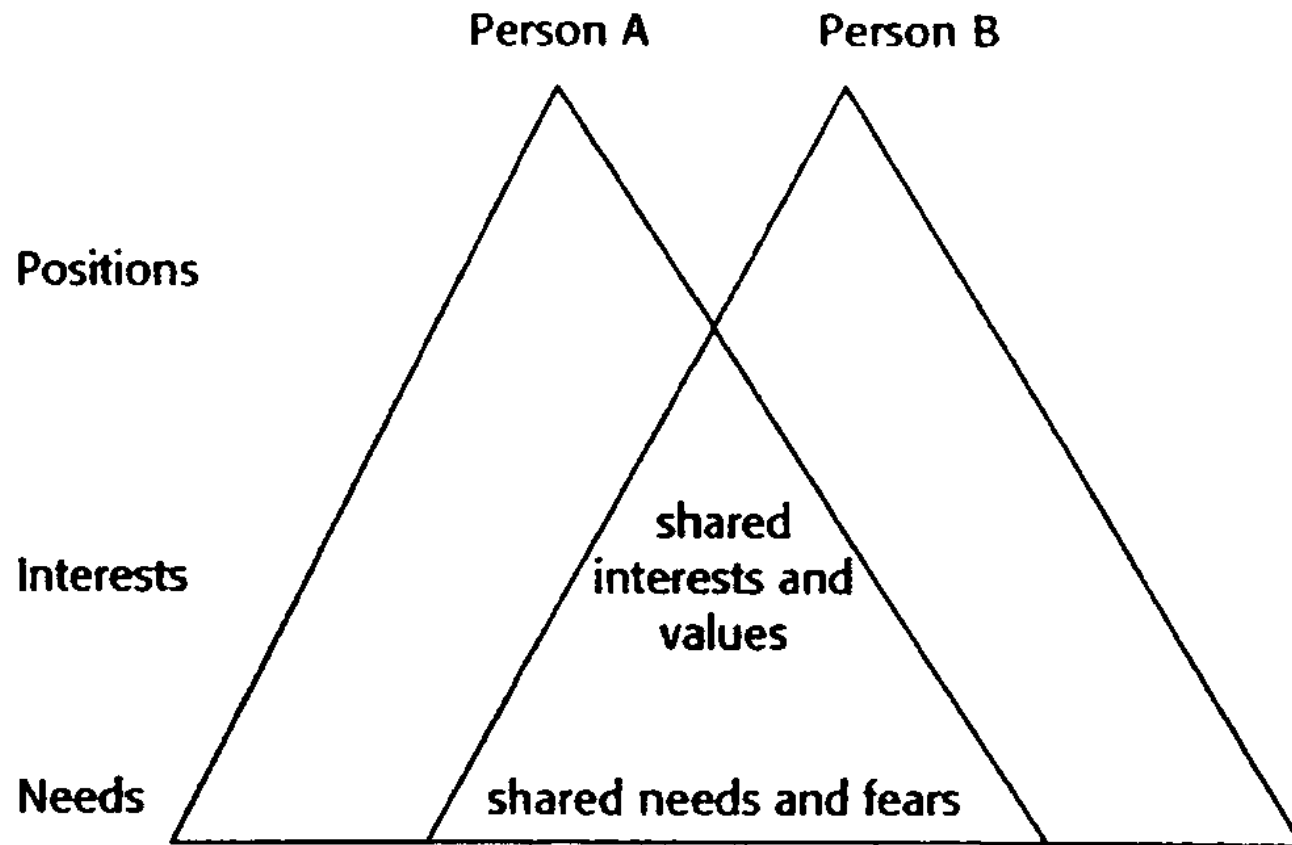
Civil Society initiatives



Sense of Community: Promoting Civic Engagements on Social Cohesion, Peace and Development

- Mohalla Committees – Address trust deficit and collective action
- Focus on children and youth
- Sports for Peace
- Promoting active citizenship

Shared Needs and Interests



Source: from Floyer Acland, 1995: 50

Civil Society initiatives...

- Rights and Justice movements through collective action (CJP)
- Political and cultural mobilisations (Anhad)
- Curricular and Pedagogic Interventions at Masters Level at TISS
 - Introducing courses on Peace and Development with a focus on Community cohesion and peace
 - Establishing a dedicated centre for Studies in Conflicts Peace and Human Security
 - Studying and mapping conflicts
 - Conducting Peace Audits



Thanks for listening!!!