

Understanding East Indian Cultures - Series II

Meeting December 1, 1971

Present were: Dr. Gill (Chairman, in the absence of Mr. M.S. Gill.) Gyan Nath
Meena Agrawal G.S. Neel
Joan Doree Joe Richardson
Dave Jhooty Kehar Sekhon
Mary McDougall Surjeet Sidhu
Lorraine Moore Marjorie Smith

1. Mr. Nath reported briefly on the action of the School Board with respect to both the Summer Program and the special school project for Punjabi children. We were very gratified that this action has come about so quickly.

2. Discussion re Tentative Program for Series II:

The following changes were suggested:

- (a) The presentation for the Moberly-Khalsa Diwan Summer Educational Program should be given in Session 2 from 7:30 - 8:00 p.m.
- (b) Instead of a division into interest groups, it was decided to have three main groups which could deal with all three topics as desired since all these areas tend to be interrelated.

The three coordinators -- Dr. Gill, Mr. Nath, and Dr. Richardson -- will each enlist the aid of six resource persons (if necessary) so that there could be a sub-division of each of the three main groups into two sub-groups, each with a team of resource people who amongst them would be familiar with the three topics.

This will permit a maximum of 90 registrants, though a smaller number will be desirable.

In the first session, time will be spent in the three main groups identifying issues and common interests that the groups wish to deal with in the following session. There may be time to start discussion of some of these.

- (c) In order to reduce the time spent in making presentations, concise mimeographed material will be distributed to the applicants either before or at the first session, so that they may have time to study this before the second session at least.

The key issues and common interests arising from the first session will be reproduced for the total group so that these may be shared.

- (d) There will also be space on the application form for applicants to make a note of particular questions they would like to have

answered. These will be distributed to the coordinators and resource persons ahead of time.

3. Re Session III:

Because of the difficulty involved in having an open session as was first considered, it was decided to limit Session III as usual to the regular participants, with the addition of a number of invited guests.

4. Re Session IV:

Mr. Nath pointed out that last year's dinner, to which members of the School Board and administration were invited, as well as other interested persons, had had enormous public relations value, and played an important part in the subsequent interest and action on the part of the Board. He suggested that if it is possible, it would be a good thing to include some such event again near the end of the series.

If there were to be a dinner on the 4th evening, the resource panel session could possibly be completed in 1½ hours.

5. Dr. Gill requested that, if possible, the series be shifted to Tuesday nights instead of Wednesday.*

6. It was agreed that the coordinators and their resource persons would meet between now and January.

7. Next meeting of the total group will be held on Tuesday, January 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Temple.

* Please note: This has been done -- so the dates for the series are now February 15, 22, 29 and March 7, 1972.