

Psychiatric Social Work: Principles to Practice

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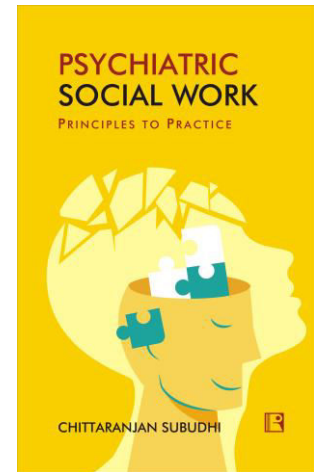
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Psychiatric Social Work practice and teaching in India has spanned over eight decades, yet there are still very few dedicated titles or volumes on the subject. There is a strong need for a comprehensive volume on Psychiatric Social Work to support both training and practice. "Psychiatric Social Work: Principles to Practice," written by Chittaranjan Subudhi, is a commendable effort to fill this gap. In this regard, it explores the historical, contemporary, and future perspectives of psychiatric social work in India. It is particularly relevant for students, educators, and practitioners within the field, offering insights into the evolution and practice of psychiatric social work in the Indian context.

The book serves as an essential guide to understanding the role and functions of psychiatric social workers in India. It highlights the need for professional growth within the field, aiming to empower psychiatric social workers to challenge the dominance of allied professions like psychology. The text underscores the importance of evidence-based practice and offers tools for developing a robust understanding of mental health and psychiatric interventions.

The book is composed of nine chapters, each of which provides a detailed exploration of key topics within the field. Below is a summary of each chapter:

1. *Introduction to Mental Health:* This chapter provides a foundational understanding of mental health, defining its scope and significance. It also discusses the concept of mental health within the broader framework of social work.
2. *Psychiatric Social Work: Meaning and Concepts:* Defines psychiatric social work and explains its core concepts and terminologies. The chapter also differentiates psychiatric social work from other allied professions.
3. *Historical Development of Psychiatric Social Work:* Traces the historical evolution of psychiatric social work as a profession in India and globally. It provides a timeline of key developments and milestones.
4. *Classification and Assessment of Mental Disorders:* Discusses various classification systems used for mental disorders, including DSM and ICD. It also covers the principles and tools of assessment in psychiatric social work.
5. *Theoretical Approaches and Causes of Mental Disorders:* Reviews various theoretical frameworks used to understand mental disorders, such as biological, psychological, and social models. It also explores the causes and contributing factors to mental disorders.
6. *Mental Health Infrastructure, Legislation, and Programme in India:* Provides an overview of the mental health infrastructure in India, including mental health policies, laws, and national programs. The chapter also discusses the role of psychiatric social workers within this framework.
7. *Treatment and Therapeutic Interventions for Mental Disorders:* Explores various treatment modalities and therapeutic interventions used in psychiatric social work, such as psychotherapy, pharmacotherapy, and alternative treatments.

8. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Community Mental Health:* Focuses on psychiatric rehabilitation strategies and community-based mental health services. It highlights the importance of community mental health and the role of social workers in fostering community integration and support.
9. *Contemporary Trends in Psychiatric Social Work Education:* Discusses the current trends and innovations in psychiatric social work education in India. It examines new curricula, pedagogical approaches, and the challenges facing psychiatric social work education.

"Psychiatric Social Work: Principles to Practice" is a significant contribution to the literature on mental health and psychiatric social work in India. It is a valuable resource for understanding the complex landscape of mental health services and the evolving role of psychiatric social workers. By addressing historical, contemporary, and future aspects, the book not only provides a thorough grounding in the principles of psychiatric social work but also equips professionals with the skills and knowledge to navigate and shape the future of the field.

Chittaranjan Subudhi is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at the Central University of Tamil Nadu, India. With a PhD in Mental Health, his research covers diverse areas, including health and mental health, medical anthropology, family and child welfare, disability studies, and tribal health

issues. Subudhi is an experienced educator and researcher, having authored numerous papers in reputable journals and contributed significantly to the field through teaching, mentoring, and professional development programs.

This book reflects Chittaranjan Subudhi's extensive experience and knowledge in psychiatric social work, offering readers valuable practical insights and a comprehensive understanding of the discipline. It thoroughly explores the field, covering both foundational principles and practical applications, making it an indispensable resource for students, educators, and practitioners alike.

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