

Symposium | AI&IT : [Symposium 32] Current Topics of Asian Psychiatry: Asian Federation of Psychiatric Associations(AFPA)

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[Symposium 32] Current Topics of Asian Psychiatry: Asian Federation of Psychiatric Associations(AFPA)

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[SY-32-01] Origin and the early history of AFPA

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In August 2002, the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology (JSPN) celebrated its 100th anniversary and hosted the 12th World Congress of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) in Yokohama, marking the first time this event was held in Asia. At the WPA World Congress in Yokohama, many leading Asian psychiatrists and WPA board members exchanged views on forming a network of Asian psychiatrists. During this meeting, the name "Asian Federation of Psychiatric Associations (AFPA)" was proposed and adopted. In February 2007, AFPA was established in Lahore, Pakistan, with the support of leading international and national psychiatric societies. This included, among others, the World Psychiatric Association (WPA), World Federation of Mental Health (WFMH), World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation (WAPR), American Psychiatric Association (APA), Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCP), and Indian Psychiatric Association (IPA). AFPA was welcomed in Asia, emphasizing harmony, friendship, and consensus as guiding principles. In August 2007, the First World Congress of Asian Psychiatry (1st WCAP) was held from August 2 to 5 in Goa, India. The Indian Society of Biological Psychiatry and the SAARC Psychiatric Federation hosted the congress. More than 300 psychiatrists and mental health professionals attended, primarily from countries in South Asia. Since then, AFPA organized World Congress of Asian Psychiatry every 2 years in five regions of Asia and become a common platform to achieve the excellence of Asian Psychiatry.