

**JOHNSON J. PUTHENPURACKAL**  
**IDENTITY, DIFFERENCE AND**  
**CONFLICT**  
**Postcolonial Critique**





**Association of Christian Philosophers of India**

*Annual Series* (14)

# **IDENTITY, DIFFERENCE AND CONFLICT**

## **Postcolonial Critique**

**Edited By**

**VICTOR FERRAO & JAMES PONNIAH**

**Papers Presented at the ACPI Annual Research Seminar**  
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John Peter Vallabadoss

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ACPI Statement 2012

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## PREFACE

It has been the avowed aim and vision of the 'Association of Christian Philosophers of India' (ACPI) to launch itself into areas and themes that are socially and philosophically relevant. For the past several years the ACPI has been in this journey of traversing through philosophical questions of social relevance. While searching for and settling on questions of relevance the ACPI has been guided by its twofold rootedness of being 'Indian' and 'Christian': 'what are the pressing questions that we, as Indians and Christians, have to address ourselves to?' Since these were existential questions, the approach taken has been very much existential and praxis-oriented. It is very satisfying to notice the enthusiasm with which the ACPI members engage themselves in academic search and research on such questions. When the research potential is given an outlet, its outflow becomes stronger: this is our experience in the ACPI.

In 2012 ACPI took a daring step to delve into a relatively novel approach in philosophizing, namely, that of postcolonialism. As pointed out by the editors in their 'Editorial Introduction,' ACPI is truly postcolonial in many respects: it is multi-local in its organization, multi-phonetic in its perspectives, multi-rooted in its being....Because of the 'multi-ness' in the being and approach of the ACPI, its philosophizing challenges the binary typology and shuns all essentialist claims; and thus it cherishes to be always 'on-the-way,' journeying and searching. The annual research seminar on 'Postcolonial Critique' was a special moment for the ACPI to reiterate its postcolonial turn in its philosophizing.

In 2002 ACPI started its publishing venture with a book on *Postmodernism*; it was the beginning of an uninterrupted journey of publications. It is my sincere hope and prayer that the publication of the present book on *Postcolonialism* will be the beginning of a new journey in the life and activity of the ACPI. I thank and congratulate all the contributors of the various articles, and in a very special way I thank Dr Victor Ferrao and Dr James

Ponniah—both of them are quite competent in postcolonial thought—for having carried out the tedious job of editing the various articles in this volume.

It is with great satisfaction that I present this volume to the postcolonial people of India and elsewhere, and I hope that the studies carried out in this book will enable thinking people to responsibly respond to the postcolonial challenges of our times.

Dr Johnson J. Puthenpurackal

*President, ACPI*

