



## **INVITATION**

Dear colleagues around the world: As the President of the World Association of Cultural Psychiatry, I am warmly inviting you to participate in the association's Second World Congress of Cultural Psychiatry which will take place in Norcia (Italy), 27-30 September 2009.

The landmark First World Congress of Cultural Psychiatry, held in Beijing (China), in September 2006, proved the significance and usefulness of having a congress with participants of diverse ethniccultural backgrounds from around the world to exchange knowledge and experiences relevant to Cultural Psychiatry. The Congress certainly promoted Cultural Psychiatry, broadening its view and scope, building pan-culture based theory and encouraging culturally competent clinical care in Psychiatry. Based on our successful experience, the association is going to have a world congress every three years as planned.

The President-Elect of the Association, Dr. Goffredo Bartocci, will serve as the President of the Second World Congress. He and his team in Italy have been working diligently preparing the Congress to take place in Norcia, near Rome, in central Italy. A very rich scientific program is being planned, as well as a meaningful social program celebrating Italian culture to enhance the experience of the Congress at this unique site.

All colleagues interested in Cultural Psychiatry, including non-medical professionals in the mental health field, and those working in Social and Behavioural Sciences, are welcome to participate in this forthcoming Second World Congress. Special considerations will be made so that colleagues from different economic backgrounds can attend.

We are looking forward to your enthusiastic participation in this important event, to meet old and new friends, and to work together for the further development of Cultural Psychiatry worldwide!

**Wen-Shing Tseng** World Association of Cultural Psychiatry *President* 

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