



WOMEN IN
CHURCH AND
SOCIETY
THE LUTHERAN
WORLD FEDERATION

From the LWF Institutional Memory

Women on the Move – Her Story:



Name: Priscilla Singh
Country of origin: India
Date of birth: 22 11 1952
Church: Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church
Period of mandate: 1998—2008, Secretary for Women in Church and Society (WICAS), LWF

Short biography: Prior to her appointment as Secretary for Women in Church and Society (WICAS) in 1998, Singh served as the Asia regional coordinator for WICAS in which capacity she advocated for the rights of Dalit women.

During her term in office, WICAS focused on the issue of violence against women and challenged the churches to treat this issue as an issue of faith and emphatically to say “No” to violence against women. The WICAS publication, *Churches say No to Violence against Women* was widely translated and distributed. As a result, over thirty projects aimed at reducing violence were run by member churches around the world.

Other foci of the office included gender training, gender and power, including the publication *Gender and Power*, leadership training both at the regional and national levels and intentionally including a gender component in all LWF development projects.

In June 2005, WICAS convened the first Conference of Women Bishops and Presidents and Leaders with the Ministry which recommended that

- “regular meetings of women Bishops, Presidents and Leaders be held
- women, including bishops, be represented in inter-confessional dialogues at the 40% LWF goal for inclusion
- all LWF member churches will ordain women, and that in Full Communion relationships, the women bishops be recognized, and
- our colleagues join us in publicly speaking out against violence towards women.”

Singh’s term ended in 2008 and she was succeeded by the present Secretary for Women in Church and Society, Rev. Dr Elaine Neuenfeldt.

Based on: *Indian Lutheran Women’s Contribution to Church and Society*, vol. 1, 2009, pp. 6–78)