In our increasingly uncertain, insecure and stressful contemporary world, it is highly challenging to reflect on what happiness means to us and to know various implications and profound ways of pursuing happiness. The term “happiness” may allude to “comfort”, “contentment”, “satisfaction”, “affluence”, “soundness”, “integrity”, “devotion”, “enlightenment”, “self-actualization” and/or “transcendence”. Indeed, happiness may have different meanings to different persons, and its diverse meanings seem to depend much on the respective mental-physical conditions/situations, lifestyles, religions, cultures, societies, polities, and natural environment. Besides, happiness is often elusive and, even when achieved, may not continue consistently over the long duration of time. In our contemporary contexts we humans, being changeable and, perhaps, insatiable, may seek and aspire for a “seemingly greater/higher” happiness.

To be sure, it is natural to pursue different kinds or nuances of happiness as one accumulates various life experiences and deepens in maturity over time. No doubt, it is
highly meaningful to delve into the diversity of similar or different implications of happiness as well as into various ways of achieving happiness in personal, cultural, social and trans-societal contexts. Such endeavor may reveal intrinsic aspects of human nature by comparing/contrasting culture-differentiated meanings of happiness and culture-based variation in pursuing happiness.

At the 2nd IIAS Symposium, we invite your contributions that relate to various personal, cultural, social and international implications of happiness, particularly of the long-term viable sorts of human happiness. There may come to the surface some long-term features of human happiness common to all peoples and societies. Also, we are interested in the varying implications and influences of such long-term happiness on social, cultural, moral, aesthetic, political, economic and psychological activities in different societies. Further, we emphatically invite you to delve into human happiness that is inseparably linked to a sustainable human future.

Please contact both Prof. Lasker and Prof. Hiwaki as soon as possible by E-mail, if you are interested in presenting a paper at our Symposium on Happiness. Also, please send by E-mail attachment an Abstract of approximately 200 English words to Prof. Lasker and Prof. Hiwaki, respectively, no later than March 30th, 2013. Notification of Acceptance will be sent you by April 9th, 2013.

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Your final paper (by E-mail attachment of standard Word file) must reach Prof. Lasker, Prof. Hiwaki and Prof. Andreas Tinsz (Chief Administrative Officer, E-mail: office@iias.info), respectively, by May 9th, 2013.

Please follow strictly our Registration Procedure and Instructions to Authors (A strict adherence to the Procedure and Instructions is required for publication of your paper: For details, please visit our Website: HYPERLINK “http://www.iias.edu” http://www.iias.edu).

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