

# CENTRE FOR CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT



FORTH ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005



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Registered as a Public Trust under the Bombay Public Trusts Act  
at Vadodara on 22.10.2002. Registration number is 18346.

Tax deduction in respect of donations made to CCD will be allowed under

U/S 80 G (5) of the Income Tax Act, according to order

BRD/A.B/H.O.1/47 (1)/192/02-03 dated 08-03-2004 for the period 30-01-2003 to 31-03-2006.

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## Introduction: Aims and Objectives

CCD is an institution established in 2001 with the main aim of doing research in social sciences, particularly on issues of social, cultural and political significance, mainly with reference to Gujarat. CCD is an academic centre meant to harness the knowledge of social sciences to the service of Gujarat society, particularly its disadvantaged sections, more specifically minorities, tribals, dalits, and women. CCD has specific focus on conflict resolution, the interface between culture and economic development, and the forms of discrimination in Gujarat society that violate human rights. The Centre's field of activities is limited to research, evaluation, training, and relevant interventions. It also aims at undertaking studies and publishing literature with an activist orientation when required.

## **Infrastructure**

Baroda (now Vadodara) is geographically located in central Gujarat and is well connected by road, rail and air. CCD is located on the XTI campus, two kilometres from the periphery of Baroda city, surrounded by greenery in a rural area. The campus is lined by huge trees and is somewhat cooler than the city. Presently the building has the administrative block on the ground floor and the academic block on the first floor. The administrative block contains an air-conditioned conference room with seating arrangements for 25 persons. It also houses a library with more than 3000 volumes in social sciences and a large collection of newspaper cuttings, articles and reprints making a total of 5000 entries. The library subscribes to 25 journals. It is digitised and easily accessible to users. CCD has developed a comprehensive website. It has a laser printer and copier, six systems (computers), handycam and a multimedia projector for training courses and workshops. It also has a modest guesthouse with an attached kitchen for visiting scholars.

## **Trustees of CCD**

The affairs of CCD are managed by a Board of trustees, composed as follows:

- Fr. K. Abranches, Provincial of Gujarat, Jesuit Province (President)
- Prof. A.M. Shah (Retd. Professor of Sociology, Delhi University, now residing in Vadodara)
- Dr. J.S. Bandukwala (Professor of Physics, M.S. University, Baroda)
- Fr. Francis Parmar (Principal, St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad)
- Dr. Ishanand Vempeny (Indologist, Ahmedabad)
- Dr. Mathew Kalathil (Sociologist, Lawyer, Chhotaudepur)
- Dr. Stany Pinto (Sociologist, Bhiloda) (Treasurer)
- Prof. Lancy Lobo (Director and Secretary)

The Board of Trustees at its meeting held on 22-10-2004 appreciated the activities mentioned in the annual report for 2003-2004 and approved the report. The Board suggested that CCD may encourage more people, from the field as well as from academics, to contribute to its output. This would require identification of people committed to research interests of CCD through guidance, finance, and publications.

## **Research Advisory Committee**

CCD has a Research Advisory Committee, composed as follows:

- Professor Priyavadan M. Patel (Political Science Department, M.S. University, Baroda)
- Professor Biswaroop Das (Centre for Social Studies, Surat)
- Dr. Nandini Manjrekar (Women's Studies Department, M. S. University Baroda)
- Dr. Stany Pinto (Bhiloda)

The Research Advisory Committee held a meeting at CCD on June 11, 2004 and deliberated on the following issues:

1. It was felt that production of knowledge as an activity should be able to generate analysis that could help: (i) Understanding of the deprivations that marginal groups within Gujarat society continue to face due to various social and economic interventions, and (ii) Translation of these into action related programmes such as preparation of training modules etc. that could reach people in different forms.
2. CCD should be selective in its choice of funding agencies in order to safeguard itself from the pressures which such agencies tend to exert.
3. Preferred Areas of Research: (i) Religion and Gujarat Society, especially in the context of the changing role of religion in Gujarat including that of the role played by various sects; (ii) Development and deprivation of marginal social groups (particularly SCs and STs) due to various developmental interventions undertaken by governmental and non-governmental agencies; (iii) work towards developing a strong data base that could help researchers and policy makers pertaining to the corresponding areas.
4. CCD would need to expand its academic staff in order to realize the above plans. The details of this, however, could be worked out by the Director and the Board of Trustees.
5. Summaries of two research proposals were discussed briefly by the Committee. Regarding the project on “Development Induced Displacement” it was felt that we must avoid repetitions, but ensure that we provide a new perspective to the problem of displacement and rehabilitation. There was a suggestion that we explore the gender question too.
6. Emphasis was laid on carrying out intensive ethnographic researches at the micro levels while carrying out studies, especially while dealing with subjects like development and deprivation of marginal groups and religion.
7. As regards the research proposal “Christianity in Gujarat” it was felt that though ambitious in its scope it can be a useful document. There was a suggestion to include the question of nationalism while examining this project in a historical context.
8. The committee was appreciative of the studies undertaken by CCD during the last three years.

#### **Staff of CCD**

- Dr. Lancy Lobo (Director)
- Amba Gamit (Office Assistant)
- Ignash Parmar (Research Assistant)
- Dinesh Patel (Attendant cum driver)

#### **Project Staff**

Shashikant Kumar (Consultant), Hinal Pandya, Jignesh Solanki, Bina Rai, Ashwini Trivedi, Jimmy J. Dabhi, Manish P. Solanki, Satish K. Macwan, Usha Gamit and Hemlata Gamit.

### **Workshops Conducted Outside CCD by Lancy Lobo**

1. Methodology workshop on “Village Exposure” to First and Second Year Theology Students of Gujarat Vidyadeep, Ahmedabad, 16-17<sup>th</sup> September 2004.
2. “Paradigm Shift from Paternalistic to Participatory Mode of Health Interventions,” a Workshop at Anand on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2004 for medical personnel of Daughters of the Cross Congregation.

### **Workshops Conducted at CCD**

1. In collaboration with Walter Fernandes of North Eastern Social Science Research Centre, Guahati, a training workshop for five research officers of the project, “Development Induced Displacement,” November 29-30, 2004.
2. In collaboration with Centre for Secularism, Mumbai, a workshop, “Dialogue with Muslims and Adivasis with Reference to post-Godhra Communalism,” for persons from in and around Vadodara district. Over forty Muslim and Adivasi leaders and social activists participated in the day long deliberations leading to an action plan for communal harmony on 9-1-2005.
3. One day workshop on 5-2-2005 for the Second Year MSW students of St. Aloysius College, Mangalore, Karanataka, on “Communal Violence in Gujarat,” and “Panchayati Raj”.

### **Visiting Professor**

Dr. Lancy Lobo gave 30 lectures on Socio-Religious Canvas of Gujarat for III year Theology students at Gujarat Vidyadeep, at Sevasi, Vadodara from 2.8.2004 to 20.8.2004.

### **Publications by Lancy Lobo**

#### **Books (under preparation)**

1. Ethnography of Malaria in South Gujarat.
2. Religious Conversion and Mobility: A case study of Vankars of Gujarat, in Western India
3. Godhra Riots and Aftermath.

#### **Articles**

1. “How serious is the persecution against Christians in India?” in *Witnessing in a Struggling Church*, (ed.) Herve Morrisette, Bangalore: Indian Catechetical Association. Pp. 63-88.
2. “Hindu nationalism, fascism, Christians and civil society in Gujarat and India” in *Witnessing in a Struggling Church*, (ed.) Herve Morrisette, Bangalore: Indian Catechetical Association. Pp. 131-154.
3. “Becoming a Marginal Native” in *Third Millennium*, VII (2004) 4, pp. 70-76. (Part I)
4. “Becoming a Marginal Native” in *Third Millennium* VIII (2005) 1. pp. 67-78. (Part II)
5. “Hindus and Muslims after the 2002 Gujarat Riots: Imaging as Binary Opposites”, in David Gellner (ed.) *Social Dynamics in northern South Asia*. Delhi: Manohar (forthcoming)
6. “Religious Cover for Political Power: BJP’s Cultural Nationalism” in *Third Millennium* VIII (2005) 1, pp. 38-48.

7. "The Kolis of Gujarat: A Conspectus", submitted to an edited volume to be published by Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
8. "Vikasma Asamanta" (in Gujarati), submitted to University Granth Nirman Board (forthcoming).
9. With Amit Mitra, "Globalisation and its Impact on the Tribals of Gujarat" in *The Church in India in the Emerging Third Millennium*, NBCLC, Bangalore 2005 (forthcoming).

### **Review**

Rowena Robinson and Sathianathan Clarke (eds.) *Religious conversion in India: Modes, motivations, and meanings*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2003. xv + 420pp. Notes, references, index. Rs. 695/-. In *Contributions to Indian Sociology (n.s.)* 38, 3 (2004), pp. 476-479.

### **Participation in Workshops and Seminars by Lancy Lobo**

1. With Biswaroop Das, "Hindus and Muslims after the 2002 Gujarat Riots: 'Imaging' as Binary Opposites," presented at a seminar on *Social Dynamics in Northern South Asia*, June 24-27, 2004 at the Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo, Japan.
2. Participated in a workshop on "Globalisation, Economy and Culture" organized by the Woodstock Theological Centre at Georgetown University, Washington, DC., USA, September 4- 8, 2004.
3. Took part in the workshop on "Asian Jesuit Identity," held on October 2-6, 2004 at Delhi for Jesuits of Asia.
4. Participated in a two day workshop on "Paradigm Shift from Paternalism to Participatory Mode of Development," November 8-9, 2004 organised by the Diocese of Baroda at Jeevan Darshan, Vadodara.
5. With Biswaroop Das, "Hindus and Muslims after the 2002 Gujarat Riots: 'Imaging' as Binary Opposites," presented at a seminar on "Pluralism, Religious Tolerance and Future of Democracy," in Mumbai at the felicitation seminar for Dr. A.A. Engineer on being presented the Right Livelihood Award on December 13, 2004.
6. Presented a paper, "Social Trends: River or Rain," at a workshop on Mission for Western Zone Jesuits, at Ishvani Kendra, Pune, December 27-29, 2004.
7. Sent a paper, "Globalisation and its Impact on Tribals" to a seminar organized by NBCLC Bangalore, January 4-7, 2005.
8. Acted as a resource person in the workshop, "Refounding our works in the light of our Jesuit vision" at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai for Jesuits of Mumbai Province, February 19-20. 2005.

### **Visits by Scholars and Ph.D. Students**

A number of scholars and students from several universities visited CCD and availed of its library facilities as well as guidance.

## **Completed Projects**

### **Need Assessment of Six Villages in Modasa Taluka of Sabarkantha District for Sangath NGO.**

Three irrigated and three dry villages on either side of the highway passing through Modasa taluka were identified for socio-economic analysis and need assessment for Sangath, an NGO in Modasa. The scope of the study was (a) to assess the level of poverty in the villages, the development perception of the villagers, and the development issues involved, and (b) to suggest a programme of intervention based on the study. Both qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques were employed in the study. It is hoped that the study will help draw attention to some of the vital issues that need more detailed discussion for planning interventions in these villages.

## **Current Projects**

### **1. Dehzado Records of Baroda State**

The Dehzado (Census) volumes published by the Baroda State are unique, as they have listed for every village and town a classification of population according to sex, religion, caste and tribe. These records provide a unique opportunity to study the horizontal dimension of caste and tribe with their actual geographical spread. They also help in studying relations between caste/tribe and village, and caste/tribe and urban centres in the regional context. Dehzado records enable us to test various hypotheses concerning such important phenomena as jajmani system, self-sufficiency of the village, rural-urban network, dominant caste, and concentrations of religious minorities and their co-existence with Hindu castes and tribes. An examination of the above will throw light on many theoretical issues of an all India nature and help correct notions about caste, tribe, village, city, religion and region. Baroda state had four districts representing four different parts of Gujarat. This will therefore enable us to generalise our observations for the whole of Gujarat. Report writing is in progress. This study is funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, Ministry of Human Resources, New Delhi. It has the guidance of Professor A.M. Shah.

### **2. Ethnography of Malaria in Gujarat**

This project involves twelve six-monthly reports submitted to the Department for International Development, U.K. during 1996-2000 which emerged out of a project, "Ethnography of Malaria in Surat District" directed by Lancy Lobo while at Centre for Social Studies, Surat. The output being unique, it was thought worthwhile sharing the findings with the wider academia and public. After a peer group review on a draft of the manuscript, the volume is being edited and prepared for publication.

### **3. Changing Social Relations in an Urban Space: Gomtipur in Ahmedabad**

The study aims at understanding changes in community relations over a period of around thirty years in a locality called Rajpur Gomtipur in Ahmedabad city where Hindu dalits, Christians and Muslims

have lived side by side through a series of communal riots. An attempt will be made to understand how various communities have been dealing with each other, coping with the changes in the city, participating in the labour market, and living with one another. Data collection is over.

#### **4. Development Induced Displacement in Gujarat from 1947 to 2004**

There has been much displacement in Gujarat as a result of the developmental efforts of the State. The extent of land acquisition and displacement of population is expected to rise further. However, very little information is available on these issues. The proposed study on ‘Development Induced Displacement in Gujarat’ is aimed at finding (a) the effects of development projects specific to displacement, and (b) to look at the level of displacement in the study regions due to various development projects initiated by Central and State governments and private organizations. It would provide an information base on the major development projects and displacement in Gujarat since 1947, and this would support the effort of the Government of Gujarat to formulate a rehabilitation policy based on the newly promulgated national policy.

The study is designed in three phases. **Phase I** involves a compilation of Gazette notifications under various land acquisition laws during 1947-2004 to know the area acquired during this period. **Phase II** is a perusal of official documents from the district collectors’ record rooms, project sites, various ministries, studies done by research and government organizations, and other materials preserved in documentation centres in the Secretariat, university and research institute libraries. **Phase III** is a study of a representative sample of persons displaced (DP) or otherwise deprived by the projects (PAP) in order to analyze the extent of displacement, rehabilitation and compensation, and the social and economic costs of displacement and rehabilitation, by the projects. All these three phases will be operationalised for mainland Gujarat first and only then for Saurashtra and Kutch. The first phase of this study is in progress.

The study on Gujarat can thus be an eye opener on the impact of development projects on the masses. It expects to contribute to the national debate on development, displacement and rehabilitation.

#### **5. Assessment of Impact of Gundhi Developmental Project in Songadh Taluka of Surat District**

Gundi Project in Songadh Taluka of Surat District covers people of seven villages displaced by the Ukai dam 36 years ago, where an NGO named Navjeevan Seva Mandal, Vyara, has been intervening through multiple interventions for the last five years. CCD is doing an assessment of impact of these interventions, mainly, on women’s Self Help Groups, agricultural development, and migration. The study will scan bench mark surveys, annual and interim reports, and other secondary sources. It has undertaken a sample household survey, and conducted Focus Group Discussions and individual

interviews with beneficiaries in target villages and non-beneficiaries, as well as held discussions in non-target villages. The study attempts to delineate the impact of the NGO's interventions, knowing well that there were also interventions by the government in the target villages. The data collection phase is over, and data analysis and writing of the report is in progress.

**CCD especially thanks the following persons and organisations:**

1. Fr. Hector D'souza S.J., Principal, St. Xavier's, Gandhinagar.
2. Dr. Biswaroop Das, Professor, Centre for Social Studies, Surat.
3. Rev. Jayapaul of NSM, Vyara.
4. The ALBOAN team, Spain.
5. The Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi.