

# CENTRE FOR CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT



Tenth Annual Report 2010-11

## **Centre for Culture and Development**

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CBRD/AA1/Mukhya/47(3)(407)/2006-2007 for the period 01/04/2006 to 31/03/2009.

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### **About CCD**

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

### **Infrastructure**

CCD is located on the XTI campus, two kilometers from the periphery of Baroda (now Vadodara) city, in a rural area surrounded by greenery. Vadodara is geographically central in Gujarat, well connected by road, rail and air. The campus is lined by huge trees and is somewhat cooler than the city. CCD is housed in its own building. A new wing with ground floor for library and first floor for conference hall was added last year. The library collection is digitized with more than 4,500 volumes in social sciences, and a large collection of articles and reprints, making a total of about 9,000 entries, and newspaper clippings. The library subscribes to 30 journals. The Centre has a laser printer and a copier, seven computer systems, and a multimedia projector for training courses and workshops. It also has a modest guest house which can accommodate fifteen guests with moderate comforts.

### **Board of Trustees**

Fr. Jose Changanacherry S.J., Provincial of Gujarat, Jesuit Province (President)  
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Dr. Stany Pinto (Sociologist, Bhiloda) (Treasurer)  
Prof. Lancy Lobo (Director and Secretary)

The Board of Trustees met on October 1, 2010 at CCD. They appreciated the activities mentioned in the annual report of 2009-10.

### **Research Advisory Committee**

Prof. Priyavadan M. Patel (Political Science Department, M.S. University, Baroda)  
Prof. Biswaroop Das (Centre for Social Studies, Surat)  
Dr. Bindu Bhatt (Geography Department, M. S. University, Baroda)  
Dr. Stany Pinto (Bhiloda)

### **Director**

Dr. Lancy Lobo

### **Administrative Staff**

Ms. Amba Gamit (Office Superintendent)  
Ms. Anjana Gamit (Attendant)



### Research Staff

Research Associate: Dr. Jayesh Shah

Research Assistants: Mr. Soma Vartha  
Mr. Anil Dabhi

Data Entry Operator: Ms. Priyanka Gamit

### Lectures/symposia/workshops arranged at CCD

I. Seminar on “Changing Scenario of Employment in Gujarat, 1960-2010” was held on July 16 17, 2010 at CCD, Vadodara. The Western Region Centre of Indian Council for Social Science Research, Mumbai sponsored the seminar. The following presented the papers:

1. **Mr. P. K. Laheri**, former Chief Secretary of Government of Gujarat delivered inaugural address.
2. **Dr. Indira Hirway** from Centre for Development Alternatives, Ahmedabad with the help of Ms. Neha Shah, “Employment in Gujarat: Identifying Worry Spots in the Light of Globalization and Labour Market”.
3. **Prof. Jeemol Unni** from IRMA, Anand, “Social Income: Community, State and Private Support Mechanisms for Inclusive Growth in Gujarat”.
4. **Prof. Amita Shah** from GIDR, Ahmedabad, “NREGA and Employment in Gujarat”.
5. **Dr. Niti Mehta** from SPIESR, Ahmedabad, “Rural Labour Force: Quality and Employability”.
6. **Prof. R. C. Popat** from Sandipani Institute of Economic Research, Rajkot, “Changing Scenario in Agriculture and Rural Employment: Challenges and Opportunities”.
7. **Dr. Himanshu Desai** from Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, “Employment in Gujarat: A Task Ahead”.
8. **Dr. Dinkar Nayak and Mr. Akash Kumra** from the M. S. University of Baroda, “Economic Growth and Employment Generation in Gujarat: An Analysis”.
9. **Dr. Arpita Mukherjee (represented by Ms. Tanu Goel)** from ICRIER, New Delhi, “Fuelling India's Retail Boom What should be the Right Policy for Gujarat (with Reference to Employment)”.
10. **Dr. Shankar Jha** from the M. S. University of Baroda, “Globalization and Employment: A Case Study of Changing Structure of Employment in Gujarat”.
11. **Dr. Kiran Desai** from CSS, Surat, “Options for Survival for Marginalized Labour in Deteriorating Employment Situation: Floating in Informal-Fringe Sector”.
12. **Mr. Rajesh Modi** from Petlad Commerce College, “Understanding Educated Youth Unemployment Conundrum”.
13. **Mr. J. G. Mahurkar**, an eminent national level trade union leader on “Changing Scenario of Employment in Gujarat”.
14. **Ms. Mita Parikh and Ms. Shanta Koshti** from SEWA, Ahmedabad, representing Dr. Renana Jhabwala on “Empowering Women in an Insecure World: The Impact of SEWA”.



II. Book Launch of: 1. *The Structure of Indian Society: Then and Now*, by A.M. Shah, Delhi: Routledge, and 2. *Malaria in the Social Context: A Study in Western India*, by Lancy Lobo, Delhi: Routledge, on July 17, 2010 at CCD. Professor P. J. Patel, former Vice Chancellor of Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar presided over the function and spoke on Professor A. M. Shah's book. Professor Biswaroop Das spoke on Lancy Lobo's book. Ms. Omita Goyal of Routledge, Delhi spoke on the production of both these books.

III. A panel discussion on Caste and Census was held on September 3, 2010 at CCD. The Panelists were: Professor P. J. Patel, Professor A. M. Shah, and Dr. Arjun Patel.

The Indian government is confronted by a demand for including caste in the decennial census of India. The government has not accepted this demand but agreed to include caste in the BPL census. The panelists discussed various aspects of this issue.

IV. A workshop on "Tribals in Transition" was held on February 16-17, 2011 at CCD. There were 25 participants, with four experts monitoring the workshop. An inaugural address was given by the Bishop of Baroda (Dr. Godfrey De Rosario) followed by an introduction to the workshop by Dr. Lancy Lobo. Professor Biswaroop Das moderated the discussions.

The objectives of this workshop were to discuss: (1) The Changes among tribals and how we view their status; (2) Tribals and us and the evolutionary ladder: Sanskritisation and Christianisation; (3) Culture and Society among tribals, and (4) Redefining our Mission through Relevant Interventions.

The participants made presentations on their experiences and perceptions of tribals in transition.

Lancy Lobo gave an overview of tribals, and clarified and identified issues emerging from the overview.

Jayesh Shah discussed (1) Deprivation of tribals with reference to Land alienation, (2) Forests and tribals.

Professor A.M. Shah spoke on: "Who are the tribals?" and "Should we emphasis tribal culture or tribal society?"

There was discussion on key issues, some policy implications, and action plan.

#### **Lectures and Participation in Workshops and Seminars by Dr. Lancy Lobo**

1. Gave a course of 15 lectures on "Socio-Religious Canvas of Gujarat" for the third year Theology students at Gujarat Vidya Deep, Sevasi, Vadodara on 13-17 September 2010.
2. Presented a paper on "Development, Displacement and Resettlement in Gujarat: 1947-2004" at a Western Zone Jesuit Meeting at Andheri, Mumbai, October 29-30, 2010.
3. Presented a paper on "Land Acquisition and Displacement in Gujarat: 1947-2004 with Reference to PESA", at a National Workshop on "A Comparative Perspective of Ground Realities in Implementation of PESA in the States of Orissa and Gujarat" on 29-30 December, 2010 at Centre for Social Studies, Surat.
4. Presented a paper on "Socio-Cultural Eco-systems and their Challenges to the Church in India" at a National Mission Seminar on "Church in India Tomorrow: A Roadmap for her Mission and Ministry in the Third Millennium" on 6 - 10 September. 2010 at Bishop's House, Rajkot.

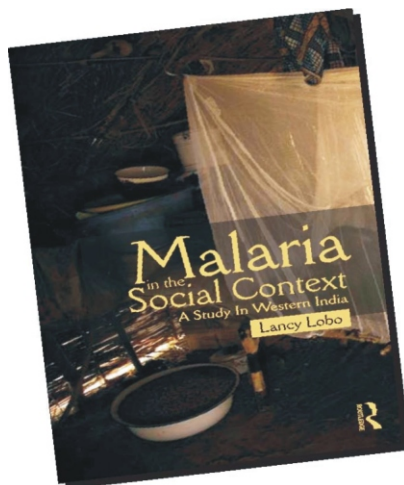


5. Participated in the Regional Team Meeting on “Pluralism Knowledge Programme India”, on October 27, 2010 at Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore.
6. With Jayesh Shah, presented a paper on, “Vadodara Municipal Corporation Election 2010: Religion and Caste-wise Booth Level Analysis” at a National Seminar on “Mapping a City: Baroda through the Ages” at the Department of History, M.S University, Baroda on February 14-16, 2011.
7. Gave a lecture on “Ethics in Social Research” on 23 February, 2011 at Centre for Social Studies, Surat for the research methodology workshop.
8. Participated in a workshop on “Status of Social Science Research in Gujarat”, at Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad on 28 February 2011.<sup>9</sup>
9. Presented a paper on “Interreligious Harmony and Globalisation with a Human Face”, at a state level seminar on “Interfaith Harmony for a Global Civilisation”, at Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Memorial, Vadodara on 27 March 2011.

### **Publications**

#### **Book by Lancy Lobo**

*Malaria in the Social Context: A Study in Western India.* New Delhi: Routledge, 2010.



Malaria is a major concern in several parts of Asia, Africa, and Central and South America, with approximately 40 per cent of the world's population at risk of contracting it. The disease has frequently made a comeback in regions where it had almost been eliminated.

This is a path-breaking book in medical anthropology, a field of study which is in its infancy in India. It examines traditional knowledge systems in conjunction with biomedical elements to promote effective health education. An empirical study of malaria in the social context, it explores folk beliefs, attitudes and perceptions affecting various aspects of incidence and treatment of malaria in south Gujarat, in a culturally and socio-economically stratified population in three ecologically differing rural zones – coastal, irrigated plains, and dry highland – and one urban site.

Based on intensive fieldwork and extensive surveys, the book brings out the importance of medical pluralism, including the role of indigenous ideas and practices, and analyses the role of private and government appointed doctors at the village level while examining the impact of allopathic medicine.





The book aims to assist health interventionists in spreading efficacious health education and awareness to eradicate malaria. It will be useful for others working in similar fields, to sociologists and social anthropologists, medical scientists, health practitioners, and policy makers, both in the field of malaria eradication and more broadly those working in public health and medicine.

### Articles by Lancy Lobo

1. "Christianization, Hinduization and Indigenous Revivalism among the Tribals of Gujarat," in *Margins of faith: Dalit and Tribal Christianity in India*, (eds.) Rowena Robinson and Joseph Marianus Kujur. Delhi: Sage. Pp.211-234.
2. "Sangh's ideology, Modi's dreams," in *Indian Currents*, Vol.XXII, No. 15 & 16, 5-18 April 2010, pp. 58-59.
3. "Hindutva, Naxalism and Christians," in *Indian Currents*, 26 July-1 August 2010 pp. 34-35
4. "Where have all the Tribals Gone," in *Jivan*, July 2010, pp. 23-24.
5. "Hindutva", in Johnson J. Puthenpurackal (ed.) *ACPI Encyclopaedia of Philosophy*, Vol 1, Bangalore: Asian Trading Corporation, 2010, pp. 605-607.
6. "Injustice to Staines' Memory", in *Indian Currents*, Vol. XXIII, No. 6, January 31 - February 6, 2011, pp. 36-37.
7. "Development induced Displacement in Gujarat 1947-2004," in (eds.) Ram Puniyani and Uday Mehta (forthcoming).
8. "Development and Displacement of Tribal Communities in Gujarat," in (ed) Amita Shah, GIDR, Ahmedabad (forthcoming).

### Other Activities

1. The seminar papers on "Employment Scenario in Gujarat" have been edited and readied for publication as an edited volume.
2. The report of the project "Changing Character of Forests and its Impact on Tribal livelihood in Gujarat (1947-2008)" has been revised and readied for publication as a volume.
3. The Centre's library has been named as "Professor A.M. Shah Library" who has donated his life-long collection to CCD and contributed much to its development. This was done at a formal function on July 17, 2010 presided over by Professor P.J. Patel.
4. A function was organized on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010 to give certificates to the 16 MSW students of M.S. University who worked as research investigators in our project "Changing Character of Religiosity and Communal Consciousness in some selected town(s) and village(s) in Gujarat (1980-2009)". Professor A. M. Shah presided and spoke on the nexus between sociology and social work. The M.S.W. faculty, including the Dean Professor M.N. Parmar, attended the function.

### Current Projects

#### 1. Changing Character of Religiosity and Communal Consciousness in Gujarat (1980-2010)

There has been an upsurge in religion, religiosity, and fundamentalism, often leading to fanaticism, manifesting in marked increase in the number of shrines, temples, churches, mosques, gurudwaras, religious activities, programmes, and festivals. A notable increase of



all these is seen especially in Gujarat. With a view to understand this changing situation, this study focuses on social organisation of religion. It is based on an empirical study of shrines in rural and urban sites in Vadodara district.

A schedule was canvassed around each religious shrine at four sites in Vadodara District:

- (i) A multi-caste, multi-religious village Jabugam (Taluka Jetpur Pavi)
- (ii) A small town Areas under Dabhoi Municipality
- (iii) Two areas of Vadodara Municipal Corporation part of Vadodara (East) and part of Vadodara (West)
- (iv) Photography of each religious shrine, videography of religious celebrations and events, and interviews of religious leaders form part of data collection.

This study is being conducted by Lancy Lobo and Jayesh Shah guided by Professors A. M. Shah and Biswaroop Das. It is supported by a grant from the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi (Ministry of Human Resource Development).

## **2. The Voting Pattern in Vadodara Rural and Urban Sites in the Local Elections of 2010**

Elections of the local self-government bodies provide an idea of the relative strength of individual and group behaviour and modern orientations in politics, which may have long-lasting impact on regional politics. It throws light on the nature, extent and limits of different caste and community voting as well as of individual voting as an effective factor in electoral behaviour. Do primordial ties still influence voting behaviour of the individual voter? To what extent do individuals vote as individuals transcending caste and creed? To what extent has Indian democracy matured as far as electoral behaviour goes? These are some of the questions which we plan to investigate in this study by analysing booth level voting.

The following sites were studied in detail:

1. Five election wards (Nos. 5, 6, 7, 17 and 19) comprising part of Vadodara (East) of Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) out of the total 25 election wards in VMC.
2. All twelve election wards of Dabhoi Municipality
3. All election booths of Jabugam Village (Taluka Jetpur Pavi)
4. All election booths of Vadu Village (Taluka Padra)

The study of the 2010 local elections was made by Jayesh Shah and Lancy Lobo. CCD planned to study similarly every election to be held in these study areas.

## **3. Study of the Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay**

Prof. A M Shah has undertaken a study of the *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay* established in 1886. The Indian Council of Social Science Research has given to CCD a grant for carrying out this study. The initial work of procuring the issues of the journal is progressing.

### **Persons to be especially thanked**

1. Mr. Alfred D'Souza.



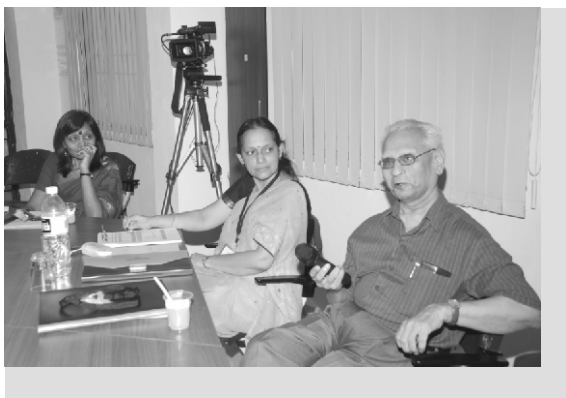
## YEAR IN PICTURE



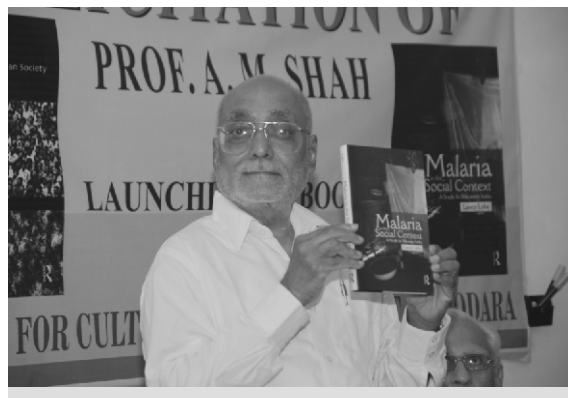
Caste and Census Panel Discussion  
on Sep. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010



Seminar on Changing Scenario of  
Employment in Gujarat: 1960-2010  
On 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> July 2010



Seminar on Changing Scenario of  
Employment in Gujarat: 1960-2010  
On 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> July 2010



Book Launch and Felicitation  
on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2010



Tribals in Transition on 16<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2011

