Centre for Culture and Development
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Visit us at - www.ccdgujarat.org
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 Vadodara city, in a rural area surrounded by greenery. Baroda (now 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. The digitized library houses more than 6000 volumes in social sciences, and a large collection of articles, reprints (about 9000 entries) and newspaper clippings. The library subscribes to 30 journals. During the year, former Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. J. Patel donated 50 books of the Bhavan’s Book University, published by Bharatiya Vidyavati Bhavan, Bombay to the CCD library; Dr. Vibhuti Patel donated training-related books; Dr. Ragini Shah donated old issues of National Geographic magazine. The Centre has a laser printer and copier, seven computer systems, and a K-yan projector with computer for training courses and workshops. It also has a modest guest house which can house fifteen guests with moderate comforts. CCD has a dynamic website: www.ccdgujarat.org which gets appreciable hits.

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The Board of Trustees met on September 18, 2012 at CCD. They appreciated the activities mentioned in the annual report of 2010-11.

Research Advisory Committee
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Research Associate:  Dr. Mrutuyanjaya Sahu
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Data Entry Operator:  Mrs. Priyanka Gamit

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

Faculty and Staff
1. Dr. Mrutuyanjaya Sahu was awarded a three month Subir Chourdhury Visiting Fellowship at London School of Economics & Political Science, U.K. He joined the Fellowship on completion of one year at CCD.
2. Miss Anjana Gamit (Attendant) resigned after working for nearly two years at CCD.

Lectures and Participation in Workshops and Seminars by Dr. Lancy Lobo
This book attempts to capture the nature of changes in the economy and society of post-liberal Gujarat. While the growth-centred development model operating in Gujarat has mesmerized many, both in India and abroad, this book critically examines this model with reference to infrastructure development in fields such as water resources, transport, communications, and industry, especially their impact on agriculture and services. The book highlights the other side of development, namely, the costs of globalization resulting in uneven regional development, destruction of natural resources, and negative impact on environment and on the status of women, and marginalized groups. The book also looks at labour, education, and human development indicators. All in all, it shows the extent to which Gujarat illustrates the growth centric India of tomorrow.
Manuscripts of books under Preparation
1. Visual Panorama of Religions in Gujarat
2. Changing Character of Hinduism in Gujarat
3. Indian Federalism in the Age of Globalisation (edited volume)

Articles by the Faculty of CCD


Completed Projects
1. Study of the Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay
   Prof. A M Shah had undertaken an exploratory study of the Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay established in 1886. The Indian Council of Social Science Research, Western Region, Mumbai gave to CCD a small grant for carrying out this study. CCD has acquired almost the entire set of Old Series of the journal from 1886 to 1936 from Indian Institute of Culture, Mumbai; Asiatic Society of Bombay; and libraries in U.K. A new project proposal is under consideration for analysis of the articles of the Journal with a view of bringing out a series of edited volumes.

   This study deals with sacred space (shrines) and sacred time (celebrations). It maps out religious shrines of all religions found in selected rural, semi-urban and urban sites in Vadodara district of Gujarat. It then classifies shrines according to size and deity. It reconstructs its history; makes iconographical observations; and documents the religious celebrations in these shrines. The study also engages with cults, sects, godmen and godwomen in Gujarat. The report has the following chapters:
   • Freedom to Conflict: Some Observations from Shrines and Celebrations;
   • Role of Religious Organizations in Building Religiosity and Communal Consciousness Behavioural Changes in Religiosity;
The expert referee of ICSSR, Delhi, which funded this project, has made the following comments about our report on the project:

Lancy Lobo and Jayesh Shah have brought out convincingly and clearly the changing nature of religiosity of the people in Gujarat and the factors associated with it. It is a very painstakingly carried out important piece of research which has an important context of communal happenings in the recent past in Gujarat. They have drawn our attention to a fact that the number of shrines of various religions is growing and they have become centres of communal power. The religious organizations in Gujarat have been successful in hiding their religious character and projecting themselves as secular organizations by involving themselves in different kinds of secular activities, besides their religious ones.

Without hesitation, I would like to add that this report can go to the press directly. I strongly recommend that the ICSSR may make necessary funding available to the Researchers for the publication of this report.

Current Projects

1. **Longitudinal Election Studies in Vadodara District of Gujarat: Assembly elections held in Gujarat State in 2012**

CCD has decided to carry out empirical studies on elections in limited rural and urban sites of Vadodara district at various levels viz., Village Panchayat, Municipal/Corporation, Taluka and District, Assembly and Parliamentary.

The objective of these longitudinal studies are to provide the relative strength of individual and group behaviour and modernist orientations in Gujarat politics which may have long lasting impact on regional as well as national politics. More specifically, they attempt to throw light on the nature, extent and limits of different caste and community voting, as well as individual voting as an effective factor in electoral behaviour. The other factors considered are: character of party organization, effective booth management, ideological appeal, and issue of development and personal incentives to the voters. Are primordial ties still influencing the pattern of voting behaviour of the individual voter? To what extent individuals are voting as individuals transcending caste and creed? To what extent Indian democracy has matured as far as electoral behaviour is concerned? These are some of the questions which we would like to investigate in this study by getting down to the booth level voting analysis.
We studied the following sites:
1. Five election wards comprising part of Vadodara (East) of Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) (Ward No. 5, 6, 7, 17 and 19) out of total 25 election wards in VMC
2. All twelve election wards of Dabhoi Municipality
3. All election booths of Taluka Panchayat Seat of Jetpur-Pavi Taluka for Jabugam Village
4. All election booths of District Panchayat Seat of Vadodara District for Jabugam Village
5. All election booths of Taluka Panchayat Seat of Padra Taluka for Vadu Village
6. All election booths of District Panchayat Seat of Vadodara District for Vadu Village

The first study was begun with the “Booth Level Voting Pattern in Vadodara Rural and Urban Sites in the Taluka Panchayat Elections of 2010”.

The second study engaged with the “Assembly elections held in Gujarat state in 2012”.

A number of election studies have been conducted in each Parliamentary and State Assemblies’ elections with the objective of understanding the electoral behaviour. How people vote and how leaders build electoral support are questions that have always excited many social researchers and commentators on Indian politics. However, the analyses of the data have not moved much beyond reporting on “who voted whom”, going by certain important background characteristics such as education, age, gender, residence, caste, religion and income. We need to integrate these findings with the descriptive studies available in the field. But further effort is necessary to use the data to understand why people vote the way they do. What logic do they follow at this juncture? How do they understand democracy? Do they have faith in democracy? Will they express their preference based on rational calculation of the behavior of the political parties? Do voters make purely rational, instrumental, technical and utilitarian decisions, when choosing to vote for a particular party? Or do they vote purely in terms of identification with a specific party, which they feel can best give them a voice to express who they are? The present study attempts to analyse the civic literacy and political participation of the people in urban and rural areas of Vadodara city.

The following questions had been addressed for the analyses of the study.
- What is the level of civic literacy and political participation of citizens in urban and rural Vadodara?
- How can the civic literacy and the political participation be measured in urban and rural Vadodara?
- What are the relevant variables and indicators that influence civic literacy and political participation of citizens?
- How are civic literacy and political participation correlated?

Drs. Lancy Lobo, Jayesh Shah and M. Sahu are conducting this study.
2. Changing Family and Marriage among Hindu and Christian Wankars of Central Gujarat

The Indian family has been characterized for long as joint or undivided family in literature as well as popular thought. Most of the families in India are extended families, wherein every member has his/her own role, often influenced by age and gender. Children are cherished and considered as gifts from God. Children can look forward to continual family support throughout their life, unlike in the western countries. Children are expected to respect their elders and parents, their wishes, and family ties. This does not mean that there are no quarrels and conflicts of all kinds.

Marriage is the joining of two persons as well as their families. In India, it is regarded as more than an individual's decision. Majority of the marriages are arranged by parents. The prospective bride and groom are usually expected to marry someone from their own caste and religious background. Marriage partners are often found through the extended family circle, or in urban areas, through newspaper advertisements and marriage bureaus. The elders use their experience and wisdom to guide younger family members for their future. As per traditions followed, men have held the primary responsibility of financially supporting their families.

Nowadays, traditional roles are changing, especially in urban areas. There are important values shared and followed by most Indian families. But today's young generation, who is into the modern age, do not seem to like the traditions and family practices that have been followed by their families for decades. They are more inclined toward the western culture and lifestyle.

The Wankar caste in Gujarat is one of the Scheduled Castes, part of the Dalit community. The Dalits are nearly seven per cent in the total population of the state. They are divided into various castes as endogamous groups, each of whom have different customs and traditions and have different living style. The purpose of this study is to map the changes in the family and marriage among Wankars, some of whom are Christians and others Hindu. This study engages with the family, kinship, marriage and divorce among the Wankars. Are there Hindu-Christian marriages? Does one find elements of Hinduism even in the Christian families? Do Christians follow different family laws? Are Christian families more westernized than Hindu families? Are there more joint households more common among Hindus than among Christians?

This project is funded by ALBOAN, Spain.

Project Proposed
1. Urban Transformation and Social Change in Gujarat: A Study of Villages on the Periphery of Vadodara City (1961-2011). CCD has applied to Indian Council of Social Science Research, Delhi to fund the project.
Seminars, Workshops and Lectures held:

1. **“Indian Federalism: Inter-governmental Relations Revisited: Towards a Fresh Balance of Power”** on 24 and 25 August, 2012.

   The Centre-State relations have come in for increasing conflict and crises from time to time in the last few decades such as conflicts relating to sharing or waters of rivers, law and order handling, mining, sharing of finances, and so on. These have aggravated between Centre-States where different parties rule and where the Centre itself has a coalition government.

   A high profile national seminar was organized by the Centre for Culture and Development (CCD) on 24-25 August, 2012 with the key-note address by the former Secretary of Lok Sabha and Constitutional expert Dr. Subhash Kashyap, and the concluding address by the Governor of Gujarat Dr. Kamala Benival.

   Twenty eight eminent scholars and activists from across the country presented papers on various topics, and around 30 participants took part actively in debate and discussions, including a few Jesuits of Gujarat Province. The major themes of the papers included: (1) Indian Federalism: Theory and Development, (2) Federalism and Decentralization, (3) Fiscal Federalism in India, (4) Internal Security and Federalism, (5) Regionalism and Federalism, and (6) Resource Federalism.

   The overall objective of this seminar was (i) to initiate a discussion and debate among lawyers, jurists, academicians, social activists, research scholars, and civil society organizations that are committed to federalism, (ii) to facilitate the emergence of a common platform on the constitutional, political, and theoretical dimensions of Indian federalism, including the tensions between the centre and the states, inter-state relations, and the problem-solving capabilities of the federal system, and (iii) to promote a dialogue on the renewal and development of federalism and greater cooperation among the practitioners of federalism in pursuit of good governance.


3. CCD organised a lecture by an eminent Professor of Social Anthropology of McGill University, Canada, Professor Donald Attwood, on the topic, **“Farmers as Agents of History in the Bombay Deccan, c. 1885-1950: Impacts on Policy, Technology and Industrialisation”** on 28 September, 2012 at the Faculty of Arts Hall, The M. S. University of Vadodara.

4. The CCD organised a National Seminar on **“Reflections Based on Census of India 2011”** on 19 January, 2013, funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research, Western Regional Centre, Mumbai.

   The overall objective of this Seminar was (i) to initiate a discussion and debate among academicians, social activists, research scholars, and civil society organisations that are concerned with the Indian census, (ii) to examine the critical issues involved in enumerating in the Indian census, and (iii) to facilitate the emergence of a common platform on the socio-political, methodological and theoretical dimensions of the Census of India and the problem-solving capabilities of the census operations.
In this National Seminar, 13 eminent scholars presented papers on various topics, and around 30 participants took part actively in debate and discussions. The major themes of the papers included: (1) India’s Sex Ratio: Impact on Society and Culture, (2) Decrease in Juvenile Sex Ratio: Impact on Society and Culture, (3) Challenges in Integrating Maternal and Child Health, (4) Socio-cultural Impact of Migration, (5) Religious Diversity: A Noteworthy Character in Census, (6) Economic and Political Fallout of Changing Age Structure, (7) Caste and Census.

Dr. Lancy Lobo, Director of Centre for Culture and Development delivered the welcome address to the august gathering. He introduced CCD and highlighted the objectives of the seminar. He then discussed the theme of the seminar. He stated that Indian Census has a rich tradition and enjoys the reputation of being one of the best in the world. Census 2011 is the fifteenth in an unbroken series since 1872, and the seventh after independence. With a long history of more than 130 years now, the Indian Census is one of the most comprehensive in the world.

Prof. Ram B. Bhagat, eminent geographer and Head of the Department of Migration and Urban Studies at International Institute of Population Sciences, Mumbai, gave his keynote address. He stated that Census develops a non-overlapping scheme of classification, and each person has a definite place in predefined categories. If a person does not fall in any of them, a category of ‘other’ is usually added. However, the census does not work in vacuum, but reflects the perception of those who are involved in the census exercise right from the inclusion of a question in the census to defining the categories. He strongly argued that caste is the most important identity of Indian people together with religion. The question on religion in the census has been studied in detail elsewhere. But the caste question in Indian censuses has not been given adequate treatment in demographic literature.

5. A two day international seminar funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research, Delhi on “Democracy in India: Strengths and Weaknesses” was held during March 15-16, 2013 at the Centre for Culture and Development. Mr. Fali Nariman, one of the finest lawyers of this generation in India, kicked off this seminar with a keynote address in the presence of more than fifty participants from all over India and abroad.

Referring to Pandit Nehru, Nariman said that Panditji truly believed in a dicey concept called democracy, i.e., to believe in Indian democracy today requires tremendous faith and unbounded enthusiasm, and Panditji had these qualities in ample measure.

Democracy worked – and worked well for the first nineteen years after independence. “What happened since then?” asked Nariman. He opined, “I think the answer lies in this – it ceased to work well the moment politics in this country became immoral and unprincipled. We have not been able to work the system – we cannot work any system – unless we re-inject some degree of morality into politics.” Nehru’s vision of Indian democracy was the vastness and diversity of the country and the diversity and plurality of its peoples: diversity in India began with its geography.

Gopal Guru, a Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, questioned, “Democracy matters for what?” He said, one can have development without democracy, like in Singapore!” He raised another question, “Who matters in democracy? Do all matter equally?” And finally he asked, “When do you matter, and how long do you matter- from one election to another?” He ended saying that one must first achieve moral hegemony and only then political hegemony!
Peter Ronald de Souza, Director of Institute of Advanced Studies Shimla and a leading political analyst, in his valedictory address, said that, to know how democracy in India is functioning, one has to ask four questions: (1) democracy as an aspiration, (2) democracy as a practice, (3) deficits and challenges of democracy, and (4) critique of democracy in terms of events, persons, parties and so on. The title of his presentation was “Democracy: Enter a Life of Contradictions”. He listed eight contradictions that democracy in India is confronted with. A few of which are: character of Indian state inheriting colonial structures; political inequality; political predatoriness; decentralization of power leading to village level tyranny; codification and distrust; and decolonization of the mind. He ended saying, democracy also has a price to be paid.

Some of the interesting sessions zeroed in on sub-themes such as: judiciary and Indian democracy; issues and challenges in Indian democracy; political institutions and consolidation of democracy; theory and practice in democracy; media and Indian democracy; social movements, civil society, democracy and development in India.

The Director of CCD, Lancy Lobo in his introduction to the seminar, said that democracy is not just an ideology but a way of life. Democracy involves debate, discussion, dialogue and exchange of ideas and thoughts rather than violence, coercion, and intimidation.

Persons to be Especially Thanked
1. Prof. P. J. Patel (former Vice Chancellor of V.V. University), Vadodara, Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Mumbai, and Dr. Ragini Shah, Vadodara who have donated books and journals to CCD library.
2. Mr. Richard Lobo and Family, Mangalore who have donated rupees one lakh to CCD.
3. Mr. Alfred D’souza from Mangalore donated rupees ten thousand to CCD.
4. Compagnia Di Ges Curia Generali – Roma for donation to the corpus of CCD.
YEAR IN PICTURES

National Seminar, “Indian Federalism” on 24-25 August 2012

Book Launch by the Governor “Economy and Society in Globalizing Gujarat” on 25 August 2012
YEAR IN PICTURES

Professor D. Attwood with A.M. Shah, Lancy Lobo and Audience during his Lecture on 28 September 2012

National Seminar, “Reflections Based on Census of India 2011” on 19 January 2013

Students from U.S.A visit Cente for Culture and Development

Students of M.S.W & Political Science who Worked as Investigators
YEAR IN PICTURES