

Centre for Culture and Development



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XTI Campus, Sevasi Post, Vadodara 391 101 (India)

Telephones: 91-265-2372001, Tele Fax: +91-265-2371354

E-mail: drlancylobo48@gmail.com & centreforculture@gmail.com

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CCD accepts donations from abroad under FCRA.

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Visit us at - www.ccdgujarat.org

Fifteenth Annual Report 2015-16



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 6,500 volumes in social sciences, and a large collection of articles, reprints, making a total of about 10,000 entries, and newspaper clippings. Library subscribes to 30 journals. 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 8 guests with moderate comforts. CCD has a dynamic website: www.ccdgujarat.org.

Board of Trustees

Fr. Francis Parmar S.J., Provincial of Gujarat Jesuit Province (President).
Prof. A.M. Shah (Retired Professor of Sociology, Delhi University, Residing in Vadodara).
Dr. J.S. Bandukwala (Retired Professor, M.S. University, Baroda).
Dr. Stany Pinto (Sociologist, Bhiloda) (Treasurer).
Vakil Thomas Parmar (Advocate, Vadodara).
Dr. Robert Arokiasamy (Principal, St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad).
Prof. Lancy Lobo (Director and Secretary).

The Board of Trustees met on February 18, 2016 at CCD. They approved the minutes (29.9.15) and the budget for 2016-17.

Research Advisory Committee

Prof. Priyavadan M. Patel (Political Science Department, M.S. University, Baroda).
Prof. Biswaroop Das (Centre for Social Studies, Surat).
Dr. Stany Pinto (Bhiloda).
Dr. Nandini Manjrekar (Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai).
Dr. Lancy Lobo (Centre for Culture and Development).

The Research Advisory Committee met on August 8, 2014 at 11.00 am at CCD and identified the research trajectory for CCD in the coming years



Faculty and Research Staff

Director

Prof. (Dr.) Lancy Lobo

Research Associate: Dr. Jayesh Shah*
Research Associate: Dr. Kanchan Bharati

*Dr. Jayesh Shah (Research Associate) resigned on 30.11.15 after working for eight years. Now he offers his services as a Consultant as and when necessary.

Mr. Dhananjay Kumar (*ad hoc* basis) joined CCD research staff on 1st March 2016.

Administrative Staff

Office Superintendent: Ms. Amba Gamit
Office Assistant: Mr. Champak Vasava
Office Assistant cum Driver: Mr. Soma Vartha
Library Assistant: Mrs. Priyanka Gamit
Attendant: Mrs. Sayna Vasava

Seminars/symposia/workshops arranged at CCD

1. National seminar on “Marriage and Divorce in a Globalized Era: Shifting Concepts and Changing Practices in India” was held on April 10-11, 2015. Funded by ICSSR, New Delhi.
2. Seminar on “*Lagna, Prem and Sex: Ekvismi Sadino ek Jatil Koydo*” (in Gujarati) was held on 21st September 2015 at Gandhinagar Gruh, Vadodara, with financial support from Nirman Foundation’s Endowment fund.
3. National seminar on “Religious Demography of India: Myths and Realities” was held on 27-28 November 2015. Funded by ICSSR, New Delhi & Centre for Culture and Development.

Lectures and Participation in Workshops and Seminars by Lancy Lobo

1. Gave a course of 15 lectures on “Socio-Religious Canvas of Gujarat” for the first year Theology Students at Gujarat Vidya Deep, Sevasi on 30.11.15 to 04.12. 2015.
2. Talk on Colloquium for Missionaries on “Post-Election Review of India” at Songadh on 14th April 2015.
3. Talk on Colloquium for Salesian Congregation on “Post Election Review of India” at Don Bosco Makarpura on 25th October 2015.
4. Talk on “From Equity to Dignity or From Development to Dignity: The Politics of Identity”, workshop held (PDO) on ‘Development and Sustainability’ on 11th and Saturday 12th December, at the Pastoral Centre in Vadodara.
5. Talk on Colloquium on (હાલના સમાજ - રાજકીય વાતાવરણમાં ખ્રિસ્તીઓનો પ્રભાવ) Post-Election Review of India at Don Bosco High School, Dakor on 13th December 2015
6. Gave a lecture at St. Xavier’s College on 1st February 2016, on “The Changing Face of Democracy in India” to Ahmedabad district Jesuits.
7. Gave a presentation on “Intellectual Apostolate in Social Sciences” in Hyderabad on 23rd Feb. 2016 to the Provincials of South Asia.
8. Talk on “Understanding the Mercy of God” at an interreligious gathering of one lakh Muslims at Godhra on March 23, 2016.
9. Gave an input and also moderated a colloquium for Bishops and Major Superiors on “Political Paradigm shift in India and its Challenges”, on 15-16th March 2016 at Gujarat Vidya Deep, Sevasi.
10. Gave a talk on Ethnography for Participants of a Training Course in Research Methodology, on 21st March 2016 at Centre for Social Studies, Surat.



Publications

Books

1. Lancy Lobo and Jayesh Shah (eds.), *The Trajectory of India's Middle Class: Economy, Ethics and Etiquette*, London: Cambridge Scholars Publications, 2015.
2. Lancy Lobo and Jayesh Shah (eds.), *Democracy in India: Current Debates and Emerging Challenges*, Delhi: Primus Publications (in press).
3. Lancy Lobo and Jayesh Shah, *Forests and Tribals' Livelihood: Their Changing Character in Gujarat (1947-2007)*, Delhi: Concept Publishing Company Ltd.(in press).
4. A.M. Shah and Lancy Lobo (eds.), *ESSAYS on SUICIDE and SELF-IMMOLATION, 1886-1936 Archives of Anthropology in Bombay*, Primus Publications (in Press).
5. Lancy Lobo and Jayesh Shah (eds.), *Legacy of Nehru: Analysis and Appraisal* (forthcoming).
6. CCD, *Jano! Khristi Virodhi Tatvoni Chahal Pahal* (Booklet in Gujarati), Vadodara: Centre for Culture and Development.

Books under Preparation

1. Marriage and Divorce in a Globalized Era: Shifting Concepts and Changing Practices in India
2. Changing Icons and Icons of Change in the Religions in Gujarat: An Outline for a Kaleidoscopic Presentation of Gods, Goddesses and Shrines in Gujarat.
3. Visual Panorama of Religions in Gujarat
4. Ethnography of East and South-East Asia, 1886-1936: Archives of Anthropology in Bombay.
5. The Parsees: Their Traditional Culture and Society
6. Religious Demography of India: Myths and Realities

Articles by the Faculty of CCD

1. Lancy Lobo. 2015. "Live-in-Relationship: a Handy License for Pleasure", *Indian Currents*, Vol. XXVII, No. 21, pp. 12-15.
2. Lancy Lobo. 2015. "Modi Rule: Discontent Writ Large", *Indian Currents*, Vol. XXVII, No. 26, pp. 20-21.
3. Lancy Lobo, 2015. "What Vadodara's Slum Displacement Reveals: Case of Kalyannagar and Kamatipura", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. L, No. 36, September 05, pp. (Web online).
4. A.M. Shah, Lancy Lobo and Shashikant Kumar, "Population, Ethnicity and Locality: A Study of *Dehzado* Records of the 1881 Census of Baroda State", *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, Delhi (forthcoming).
5. Singh, Charan, Ayanendu, Sanyal and Kanchan, Bharati, 2015. "Social Security Schemes: A Case for Universalization", *Working Paper Series-498*, December, Indian Institute of Management- Bangalore (IIM-B).
6. Singh, Charan, Kanchan, Bharati and Ayanendu, Sanyal, 2015. "Ageing in India Need for Universal Pension Scheme", *Economic and Political Weekly*, May, Vol. 18, pp. 40-46.
7. Bharati, Kanchan and KG, Gayathri, 2015. "Double Jeopardy of Aging and Widowhood: Perceptions and Opinions of Rural Old Widows", in Sadhna Jain and Manisha Wadhva (Eds.): *Issues and Concerns of the Elderly People in India*, New Delhi: Bookage Publishers.



Current Projects

1. Longitudinal Election Studies in Vadodara District of Gujarat

CCD has carried out empirical studies on elections in limited rural and urban sites of Vadodara district at various levels, viz., Village Panchayat, Municipal Corporation, Taluka, District, Assembly, and Parliament. The objective of these longitudinal studies is 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, e.g. religion and caste, 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:

- a. 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.
- b. All twelve election wards of Dabhoi Municipality.
- c. All election booths of Taluka Panchayat Seat of Jetpur-Pavi Taluka for Jabugam Village.
- d. All election booths of District Panchayat Seat of Vadodara District for Jabugam Village.
- e. All election booths of Taluka Panchayat Seat of Padra Taluka for Vadu Village.
- f. 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”. Now, the third study focuses on Parliament elections held in May 2014 in the same sites.

Data collection has been done and its analysis and report writing is in progress.

Drs. Jayesh Shah and Lancy Lobo are conducting this study.

2. Journal of Anthropological Society of Bombay, 1886-1936

As part of our interest in the history of sociology and social anthropology in India, the Centre for Culture and Development has undertaken a project to study *The Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay* established in 1886. We have acquired photocopies of all issues of the journal from 1886 to 1936--a total of about 120 issues from 15 volumes. We got them from many different libraries in India and abroad.

We are now engaged in carrying out an intensive analysis of these volumes and studying the contribution made by the Anthropological Society of Bombay and its journal to anthropology and sociology. In fact, our aim is to show how India contributed significantly to world anthropology and sociology since at least 1886.



The journal includes articles on all branches of anthropology: theory and method, physical anthropology, prehistoric archaeology, linguistics, social and cultural anthropology. They cover ethnography of a number of structures and institutions, such as religion, kinship, marriage, folklore, customs, etc. Interestingly, there is a series of articles on suicide in Bombay for a number of years. The journal covers not only different parts of South Asia (i.e., India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka) but also many other parts of the world. They also cover various religions: Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Parsi religion, Tribal religion, and so on.

Our plan is to go through all the articles, classify them according to dominant themes, and then place the articles of every particular dominant theme into a volume, along with an Introduction. We then make these volumes available to scholars. But, for the present we wish to focus on analysis, classification, and documentation. We aim to produce manuscripts of five or six volumes on different themes with publication of these volumes in our mind as mentioned below:

- Book 1- Suicide
- Book 2 - Far East and South East
- Book 3 - Parsi Society and Culture
- Book 4- Theory and Concepts
- Book 5 - Physical Anthropology
- Book 6 - Archeology and History
- Book 7 - West Asia and North East Africa
- Book 8 - Indian Society and Culture
- Book 9 - Islam in India
- Book 10 - Residual

Professors A.M. Shah and Lancy Lobo, assisted by Dr. Ragini Shah are carrying out this study partially assisted financially by ICSSR, Western Region, Mumbai.

The first volume, entitled, “**Suicide and Self- immolation**” edited by A.M. Shah and Lancy Lobo, with a Foreword by Ashis Nandy has been accepted for publication by Primus Publications, Delhi

1. Study of Social and Political Structure of Gujarat Tribals

Unfortunately, in India the social structural studies of tribals had little impact. Studies of tribals in India were by and large focused on culture rather than structure. Hence many items of culture were studied: ecology, agriculture, arts, crafts, material culture, housing, dance, music, language, folklore, rituals, magic, witchcraft, festivals, and so on. Culture has 250 definitions and yet no agreement. By and large by culture meant four Ds: dress, diet, dance, and demeanor.

What do we mean by social structural studies of tribals? In brief, social structure deals with household, family, kinship, lineage, clan, marriage, agrarian relations, social stratification, leadership, chieftains, and political system of the tribals.

There are those very small societies, in which even the largest political unit embraces a group of people all of whom are united to one another by ties of kinship, so that political relations are coterminous with kinship relations and the political structure and kinship organization are completely fused.

CCD plans to study the internal social organization of the 29 tribes of Gujarat one by one. This is its long range plan. However, it would like to take up one tribe to begin with as a pilot study.



We shall take a household census, and draw the genealogical charts of household and family. We shall attempt to construct the spread of kinship network both consanguinal and affinal. We shall find out marriage rules for giving one's daughters and taking daughters-in-law and the spread of kinship networks and their tribes of recognition. We shall also study the exchange pattern during life cycle rituals, and the nature of conflicts, and how they are resolved through customary as well as civil laws. Dhananjay Kumar, Kanchan Bharati and Lancy Lobo are carrying out this study. ICSSR-Mumbai has financially supported this study.

Completed Projects

1. Urban Transformation and Social Change in Gujarat: A Study of Villages on the Periphery of Vadodara City (1961-2011).

The urban areas in India have been experiencing demographic, environmental, economic and social changes since the last two decades. Given the changes in the fringe areas have been complex and multifaceted, an analysis of more than just demography and land use is required. Its impact on local culture, social relations and religion is only fuzzily understood. The processes of change are most vicious in the vicinity of urban fringes.

Changes in livelihood sources because of urban transformation were the significant change applicable for the three fringe villages. It was noticed that farming was no more the main source of livelihood across villages

The changes in land use pattern of the periphery villages suggest the major changes in the land dynamics. It shows that as the city expands, there is collusion between the influential local political heavyweights and land mafias. Infrastructural facilities are being developed as per the need of the land acquired by the local political stalwarts and not as per the need of the area under development

The present study has attempted to investigate the trends of urban transformation and the kind of changes that have been taking place within the city limits and beyond the city limits of Vadodara during the last few decades. Changes in Consumption, Dietary and Clothing Patterns, socio cultural changes, changes in rites and rituals, and infrastructural changes have been documented.

The study could suggest possible roles that the Municipal Corporation, District Development Authority, Urban Development Authority, and State government can play in supporting the linkages between urban and fringe village development by planning for appropriate infrastructure, incentives and policies for both.

Dr. Jayesh Shah assisted by Drs. Kanchan Bharati and Lancy Lobo carried out this study have submitted the report to ICSSR, Delhi.

Evaluations done by Lancy Lobo

Indian Social Institute, Bangalore

Persons to be especially thanked:

1. Nirman Foundation
2. Professors Ghanshyam Shah and Ambrose Pinto for the evaluation of CCD



YEAR IN PICTURES

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