# Centre for Culture and Development







#### **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 8,500 volumes in social sciences, and a large collection of articles and 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 eight 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).

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Dr. Robert Arokiasamy (Principal, St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad).

Prof. Lancy Lobo (Director and Secretary).

#### **Research Advisory Committee**

Prof. Priyavadan Patel (Retired, Political Science Department, M.S. University, Baroda).

Prof. Biswaroop Das (Retired, Centre for Social Studies, Surat).

Dr. Stany Pinto (Social Activist and Trainer, Bhiloda).

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Dr. Lancy Lobo (Centre for Culture and Development).



#### Director

Prof. Lancy Lobo Ph.D

#### **Faculty and Research Staff**

Affiliate Professors: Prof. Biswaroop Das

Prof. Priyavadan Patel

Research Associate: Dr. Kanchan Bharati Research Associate: Mr. Dhananjay Kumar

Research Consultant: Dr. Jayesh Shah

#### **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 "Constitutional Quest for Uniform Civil Code: Consensus, Compulsion or Mirage" on 21-22 Dec. 2017. This seminar was funded by the Lord Bhikhu Parekh Endowment Fund.
- 2. Discussion on 2017 Gujarat Assembly Election on 9.1.18 at 2.00pm to 5pm (9 persons).
- 3. National seminar on "Ecology, Environment and Religions: Key Issues and Challenges" on 26-27 Feb. 18. Indian Council of Social Science Research, Western Region, Mumbai funded this seminar.
- 4. First Foundation Day Lecture on 27th February 2018 by Professor Walter Fernandes on "Dissent and Contestation as a Social Process in India". A book launch programme was held on 27th February 2018 with Archbishop Stany Fernandes as guest of honour and Lord Bhikhu Parekh as chief guest. On the same occasion the conference hall of CCD was dedicated to Professor J.S. Bandukwala.



#### **Training**

1. Course on "Critical Thinking of Contemporary India" during 23.04.17 to 30.04.17 for young Jesuits and Diocesan seminarians. There were three main resource persons: 1. Biswaroop Das; 2. Priyavadan Patel and 3. Lancy Lobo.

Following is the Summary Report by John Rayan Pereira SJ and Vishal Melroy Pinto SJ, published by *Jivan*, August 2017, pp. 25.

A course on 'Critical Thinking on Contemporary India' was organized by the Centre for Culture and Development (CCD), Vadodara from April 23 to April 30, 2017 for Jesuit scholastics and seminarians. Scholastics from Patna, Hazaribagh, Jamshedpur, Karnataka and Gujarat Provinces and seminarians from Baroda Diocese attended the eight day long course which provided a critical understanding on perspectives through which the contemporary context of rural and urban India can be understood. In the Key-note Address, the Provincial of Gujarat province, Fr. Francis Parmar highlighted the tradition of intellectual apostolate in the Society. Prof. Biswaroop Das, a retired professor at the Centre for Social Studies, Surat and Prof. Priyavadan M. Patel, a retired professor of Political Science enabled us to see the reality of modern India. Prof. Lancy Lobo, the Director of CCD inspired us to think out of the box and reflect on the burning issues of today. Prof. J. S. Bandukwala, a well-known social activist shared his experiences about his struggle while fighting for the rights of the slum-dwellers. 'I am fighting for a cause,' he said indomitably. The most important part of the course was the urban and rural sector visits, not as tourists but as pupils interested in knowing and analyzing the mode of development. We thank professor Lancy Lobo and the staff of CCD for organizing the course and the warm hospitality proffered

#### Lectures and Participation in Workshops and Seminars by the Faculty Members

- 1. Kanchan Bharati participated in the Roundtable Discussion on 'Pension Reforms in the Unorganized Sector: The Way Forward', 1st February 2018, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, New Delhi.
- 2. Lancy Lobo presented a paper on "Evangelize, Civilize and Modernize: Reflections on the Gujarat Mission", in seminar on Towards a History of the Jesuits in South Asia: Post-Restoration Period at Jesuit Historical Research Institute, Goa on 29.6.17 to 30.6.17.
- 3. Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "A Paradigm Shift in the Idea of India from Nehru to Modi" at Gujarat Educational Board of Christian Institutions (GEBCI), Nadiad on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2017.
- 4. Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "A Paradigm Shift in the Idea of India from Nehru to Modi" at Archdiocesan Board of Education, Goa on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

- 5. Kanchan Bharati, Dhananjay Kumar, Jayesh Shah gave a talk on 'Suicide: Issues, Prevention and Worth of Life' to 30 students of St. Mary School, Petlad at CCD on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017.
- 6. Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "A Paradigm Shift in the Idea of India from Nehru to Modi" at Jesus and Mary Convent, Vadodara, in the seminar on Youth Ministry in South Asia Challenges and Opportunities (JYMSA Seminar) on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017.
- 7. Lancy Lobo gave a Key Note Address on "Rise of the Shrinking Space for Civil Society and its Challenges in India" in National Conference on "Religion and Civil Society: Challenges and Responses", in Department of Sociology, Loyola College (Autonomous) at Chennai on 28-29<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2017.
- 8. Lancy Lobo gave a Key Note Address on "Understanding the Idea of India Today: A Paradigm Shift from Nehru to Modi" at the symposium organized by Pilar and Rachol seminaries at Goa on 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2018.
- 9. Kanchan Bharati, Jayesh Shah and Lancy Lobo gave talks on "Research Methodology, and on research done by CCD" to 14 MSW Students of Guru Nanak College, Chennai at CCD on 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2018.
- 10. Lancy Lobo made a presentation on Gujarat Assembly Elections at Indian Social Institute Delhi on 13-14 Jan. 2018.
- 11. Lancy Lobo at Workshop on "The Intellectual dimension of the Jesuit Mission" on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad organized by JHEASA.

#### **Publications**

#### Books

- 1. Lobo, Lancy and Jayesh Shah (eds.), 2017. *Democracy in India: Current Debates and Emerging Challenges*, Delhi: Primus Publications.
- 2. Lobo, Lancy and Jayesh Shah (eds.), 2017. *Religious Demography of India: Myths and Realities*, Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
- 3. Lobo, Lancy and Jayesh Shah (eds.), 2018. *The Legacy of Nehru: Appraisal and Analysis*, Delhi: Manohar Publications.
- 4. Shah, A.M. and Lancy Lobo (eds.), 2018. ESSAYS on SUICIDE and SELF-IMMOLATION, Indian Anthropology 1886-1936, Primus Publications (in Press).
- 5. Lobo, Lancy and Kanchan Bharati (eds.), Marriage and Divorce in a Globalized Era: Shifting Concepts and Changing Practices in India, Dehli: Manohar Publications (in Press).



#### **Books under Preparation**

- 1. Changing Icons and Icons of Change in the Religions in Gujarat: An Outline for a Kaleidoscopic Presentation of Gods, Goddesses and Shrines in Gujarat.
- 2. Visual Panorama of Religions in Gujarat.
- 3. Ethnography of East and South-East Asia: Exploration and Comparison.
- Ethnography of the Parsees.
- Legacy of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar: Analysis and Appraisal.

#### Articles by the Faculty of CCD

- 1. Charan Singh, Ayanendu Sanyal and Kanchan Bharati. 2017. New Social Security Schemes in India: A Critical Analysis and a Case for Universalization, The Journal of Income and Wealth, Vol. 39, No. 2, July-December.
- 2. Kumar, Dhananjay and Mishra, Niharranjan, 2017. New Agro-technological Practices and Caste Hierarchy: Some Anthropological Thoughts on Western Uttar Pradesh. Asian Man (The)-An International Journal, Vol. 11, Issue 1: 26-34 (ISSN: 0974-6366) UGC Journal list: 1277. DOI: 10.5958/0975-6884.2017.00004.4
- 3. Kumar, Dhananjay and Mishra, Niharranjan. 2017. Caste Hierarchy and New Agrotechnological Practices: Some Anthropological thoughts on Western Uttar Pradesh. Man in India, Vol. 97, Issue 11: 285-300 (ISSN: 0025-1569) UGC Journal list: 1545.
- 4. Lobo, Lancy. 2017. "The Clash of a Wounded Civilization", *Jivan*, July, pp. 15-18.
- 5. Lobo, Lancy. 2017. "Has Western Modernity Touched India?", Indian Currents, Vol. XXIX, No. 32, 07-13 August, pp. 30-33
- 6. Lobo, Lancy, 2017. "Has Western Modernity Really Impacted India?", Mangalore *Today*, July, pp. 24-26.
- 7. Lobo, Lancy, 2017. "De-Humanization through Caste and Religion: Two Shining Human Rights Activists of Gujarat, India", Third Millennium, Vol. XX, No. 2, April-June.
- 8. Lobo, Lancy, 2017. "Hindutva Brigade Keeps a Phobia Alive", *Indian Currents*, Vol. XXIX, No. 43, 23 - 29 October, pp. 18-20.



#### **Current Projects**

## 1. Status of Failed Students in Class X and XII Board Examinations in Gujarat: A Case Study of Vadodara District

Every year, about four to five lakhs students are unable to join their further studies due to their failure in clearing either Class X or Class XII Board Exams since 2013. What happens with their careers? To the best of our knowledge no one has studied this phenomenon in Gujarat.

As a pilot study, the main focus of the study was on (i) status of failed students in Class X and XII Board Exams, (ii) the sources of their livelihood, (iii) how they shape up in their life, (iv) their path of struggle for generating sources for their livelihood, (v) how much they earn per month, and (vi) the problems they are facing in generating sources for their livelihood.

The study is based on secondary data as well as primary data. Secondary data for 20 years was collected from Gujarat Secondary Education Board at Vadodara and Gujarat Higher Secondary Education Board at Gandhinagar. We requested the officials of the Boards to proide us the list and contact details of bottom five schools according to the result percentage of examination centres of Vadodara and Chhota Udepur districts. Telephonic interviews with 258 failed students have been completed. Analysis and report writing is in progress. This study is carried out by Dr. Jayesh Shah and Dr. Lancy Lobo. Indian Council of Social Science Research, Western Region, Mumbai has given a small grant for this study.

## 2 Study of Social and Political Structure of Gujarat Tribals: Vasava, Chaudhry, Kukna and Warli.

This research project aims to the study social and political structure of four tribes in south Gujarat. By and large, Indian anthropologists have studied mainly the culture of the tribes but not their social structure: their culture (Sanskriti), rather than their society (Samaj). The present study seeks to fill this lacunae. This study proposes to cover the internal social organization such as household, family, lineage, clan, kinship and marriage networks. This research will take a household census, and draw genealogical charts of household, family, lineage, clan and kinship networks of the people of selected villages in these tribes. It will trace the spread of kinship network both consanguinal and affinal. It will construct the patterns of kinship and affinity that link up individuals and groups in different neighbouring villages in an extensive network of mutual rights and obligations, and then investigate their links with political structures like village, taluka and district panchayats. The project will also investigate the role of tribal identity in state and national politics, especially during elections. Drs. Lancy Lobo and Dhananjay Kumar are conducting these studies. Professor A.M. Shah is guiding this study. This study is funded by Province Development Office, Ahmedabad.

#### 3 Indian Anthropology, 1886–1936.

Indian Anthropology, 1886–1936, is a series of volumes based on articles published in the Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay over a period of fifty years. About 750 articles have been classified volume-wise, according to certain broad themes, for this series. The various volumes of the Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay contain a valuable record of the formative period of anthropology in India, almost forgotten today. Published by a learned society formed by the English-educated literati of Bombay, the journal provided a view of anthropology that was different from the one provided by the colonial government institution, Ethnographic Survey of India (later renamed as Anthropological Survey of India). While the latter was concerned mainly with tribal communities in India, the former covered a variety of societies and cultures, primitive and civilized, all over the world. About 130 authors, from India as well as several other countries in the world, contributed to the Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay. By re-issuing them in this series, we hope to help craft a more comprehensive view of Indian anthropology.

Of the several volumes we have planned, the first volume is, *Essays on Suicide and Self-Immolation*. It includes essays on suicides in Bombay, written even before Emile Durkhiem, the eminent French sociologist wrote his famous book on Suicide. Professors A.M. Shah and Lancy Lobo have written the Introduction, and Professor Ashis Nandy has contributed a Foreword to this volume. The second volume is *Explorations in East and South-Eastern Asia*, for which Professor Patricia Uberoi, a distinguished scholar of Chinese society and culture, is writing a Foreword.

We are now working on two more volumes on Parsees, their religion, traditional culture and society. In all there are about 34 papers on this subject in the journal. We have classified them into two parts: (1) papers concerned with society and culture in relatively modern times, i.e. around 1886-1936, and (2) papers based on ancient texts of Parsee religion and culture. Professors A.M. Shah and Lancy Lobo are the Series Editors for Primus publication, Delhi. Dr. Ragini Shah has been helping in the editorial process.



#### **Completed 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 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:

- 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". The third study focused on Parliament elections held in May 2014 in the same sites. Drs. Jayesh Shah and Lancy Lobo were engaged in this study. Gujarat Province Development Office funded this study.

# 2. Suicidal Trends and their Socio-economic and Psychological Determinants in Gujarat: A Pilot Study of Vadodara District.

The rising trend of suicides in recent times is making it a major cause of concern for the society as well as for policy makers. Though suicide is a personal act, there are internal and external factors that determine the suicidal behaviour. It is a multi-factorial phenomenon, influenced by several mutually interacting psychological, social, economic, biological/psychiatric, cultural, and environmental factors. Suicidal deaths and their patterns are thus a reflection of the prevailing social set up and of mental health status of the individual. Since causes of suicide are found in the social set up itself, increased incidence of suicide shows that something has gone wrong with the society. Moreover, the phenomenon of suicide is not confined to a particular region or community or to any given period, but its appearance varies from region to region and from time to time.

In 2015, Gujarat reported 7,246 suicides, with the suicide rate of 11.6 per one-lakh population against the national average of 10.6 per one-lakh population. Considering that by and large, suicide as an area of research has remained aloof from the purview of intellectuals, the present study is undertaken to look at the trends and tendencies of suicidal deaths with their socio-psycho-economic determinants in the state and specifically in Vadodara District.

The study includes both secondary and primary data. The details of suicidal deaths were gathered from different secondary sources, that include National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), State Crime Record Bureau (SCRB), and Crime Analysis Unit, CID, Gandhinagar. These secondary sources provided details of suicidal deaths in the country, the state, and the district (police station wise). For the primary case studies, data was collected from the hospital records (SSG, Vadodara) as well as from the police stations of Vadodara rural and city. The case studies were conducted by clinical psychologists Mansi Jadeja, Mallika Pathak and Sahil Gehlot.

The study was mainly guided at different stages by Prof. Biswaroop Das and the project team comprised of Dr. Kanchan Bharati, Prof. Lancy Lobo and Dr. Jayesh Shah. This study is funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research, Delhi.



#### **Evaluation done by Lancy Lobo**

Catholic Information Service Society (CISS), Ahmedabad

#### Persons to be especially thanked:

- 1. Prof. Tulsi Patel, Retired professor of sociology, DSE, Delhi University donated 135 books to CCD library
- 2. Mr. Richard and Mrs. Zita Lobo gave a donation to CCD
- 3. Mr. Gerald and Mrs. Genevieve Monteiro gave a donation to CCD

# YEAR IN PICTURES

National Seminar on "Constitutional Quest for Uniform Civil Code: Consensus, Compulsion or Mirage" on 21-22 Dec. 2017.





## **Discussion on 2017 Gujarat Assembly Election on 9.1.18**







# YEAR IN PICTURES

## **National Seminars**

"Ecology, Environment and Religions: Key Issues and Challenges" on 26-27 Feb. 18.





First Foundation Day Lecture on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 by Professor Walter Fernandes on "Dissent and Contestation as a Social Process in India"





Course on "Critical Thinking of Contemporary India" during 23.04.17 to 30.04.17 for young Jesuits and Diocesan seminarians.

