# Centre for Culture and Development









#### **Centre for Culture and Development**

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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 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**

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#### Director

Prof. Lancy Lobo, Ph.D

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

Prof. Biswaroop Das Affiliate Professor Prof. Priyavadan Patel Affiliate Professor

Dr. Kanchan Bharati Assistant Professor Assistant Professor Dr. Dhananjay Kumar

Dr. Jayesh Shah Research Consultant

#### **Administrative Staff**

Ms. Amba Gamit Office Superintendent Mr. Champak Vasava Office Assistant

Mr. Soma Vartha Research Assistant cum Driver

Mrs. Priyanka Gamit Library Assistant

Mrs. Sayna Vasava Attendant

#### Seminars/symposia/workshops arranged at CCD

- 1. National seminar on "Procedural and Substantive Democracy in India" on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Funded by Province Development Office, Ahmedabad and Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara.
- 2. National seminar on "Suicide and Self-harm: Issues and Challenges" on 7-8th December 2018. Funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research, Western Regional Centre, Mumbai and Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara.
- 3. Discussion on book, "The Radical in Ambedkar: Critical Reflections" by Suraj Yengde on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 at Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara.
- 4. Second Foundation Lecture, on 26th February 2019 by Professor (Lord) Bhikhu Parekh, entitled, "Interreligious Dialogue: Limits and Possibilities", presided over by Padma Shri Professor Sitanshu Yashashchandra Mehta (President, Gujarat Sahitya Sabha). This was followed by launch of two books. Professor A.M. Shah, retired Professor of Sociology from Delhi School of Economics, introduced the book, Essays on Suicide and Self-immolation, edited by him and Lancy Lobo. Thereafter, Professor Rajlaxmi Sriram of M.S. University, Vadodara, introduced the book, Marriage and Divorce in India, edited by Lancy Lobo and Kanchan Bharati of CCD.

#### **Training**

A Course on "Critical Thinking of Contemporary India" was organized during 17.04.18 to 24.04.18 for young Jesuits from India. There were three main resource persons: Prof. Biswaroop Das, Prof. Priyavadan Patel, and Prof. Lancy Lobo. The following is a Summary Report on the course by Anmol Lakra S.J. published in *Jivan*, July 2018, pp. 25.

This course was an innovative, inspiring, eye opening and insightful experience. The inaugural address gave us the foundation for this course, stressing on Jesuits who are called to take a learned approach to ministry. We together reflected on the socio-political realities of our country. The different resource persons broadened our horizon to see and think critically on the present day happenings in our country.

To have the first-hand experience of rural and urban life, we visited a daily Labour Market where workers come in search of work by hawking their labour. We also visited a few slums and a village. The visits and interactions with the people not only opened our eyes but our mind, intellect and heart.



The course made us aware of the political situation of our country, where democracy is at stake. The course helped us to remove our own prejudices and biases and provoked to see reality from the eyes of those at the bottom of the society. It opened our minds to see the life and situation of the people in larger society. It helped us to see the root causes of the problems. It provided a broader perspective for our future ministries.

We are grateful to our resource persons: Fr. Franco Fernando, Professors Biswaroop Das, Priyavadan Patel, J.S. Bandukwala, A.M. Shah, and Lancy Lobo, and Drs. Kanchan Bharati and Dhananjay Kumar.

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

- 1. Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "A Paradigm Shift in the Idea of India from Nehru to Modi", at the Ranchi Jesuit Province Sammelan, Ranchi on 22-23 May 2018.
- 2. Jayesh Shah presented a jointly written paper (with Lancy Lobo) on "How People Vote: Exploring Civic Literacy and Political Participation" in National Seminar on Procedural and Substantive Democracy in India on 7th September 2018 at Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara.
- 3. Lancy Lobo, Kanchan Bharati and Dhananjay Kumar gave a two days orientation on "Understanding of Indian Rural Landscape: A Contemporary View" for 3 Jesuit juniors of Ahmedabad, at CCD on 16-17 September 2018.
- 4. Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "A Paradigm Shift in the Idea of India from Nehru to Modi and Inculturation, St. Anne's Sisters, Sevasi on 30th September 2018.
- Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "Current Challenges and Our Response (Socio-Political Analysis)" in JEA SA Annual Meeting, Goa on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018.
- 6. Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "A Paradigm Shift in the Idea of India from Nehru to Modi and Inculturation", MSCJ Sisters, Surat on 13th Nov. 2018.
- 7. Kanchan Bharata presented a jointly written paper (with Biswaroop Das and Lancy Lobo) on "Challenges in Conducting Suicide Research" in National Seminar on Suicide and Self-harm: Issues and Challenges at Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara on 7-8<sup>th</sup> December 2018.
- 8. Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "Current Challenges and Our Response (Socio-Political Analysis); Tribals in the Margins of Faith; Actors and Factors", St. Anne's Sisters, Sevasi on 16-17 November 2018.
- 9. Thirty Buddhist scholars and monks visited CCD on 26th November 2018. Lancy Lobo gave an introduction to the forthcoming book, "Anthropological Explorations in East and South-East Asia".
- 10. Lancy Lobo gave a talk on "Tribals in the Margins of Faith: Actors and Factors", South Gujarat Pastors' Meeting, Vyara on 28th November 2018.
- 11. Jayesh Shah presented jointly written papers (with Lancy Lobo) on "Bharatiya Loktantra: Chunautiya evam Sambhavnaye" and "How People Vote: Exploring Civic Literacy and Political Participation" in the National Seminar on Bharativa Loktantra: Chunautiya evam Sambhavnaye at Gurukul P.G. College, Dungarpur and Govind Guru Tribal University, Banswada on 20-21st October, 2018.
- 12. Lancy Lobo presented a paper on "Procedural and Substantive Democracy" at the Indian Social Institute, Bangalore on 14-15 December, 2018.
- 13. Jayesh Shah presented a jointly written paper (with Lancy Lobo) on "Rethinking Practice and Policy in Education: A Case Study of Class X Failed Students", at Ninth Annual International Conference on Comparative Education Society of India (CESI) at M.S. University on 14-16<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

14. Lancy Lobo gave a course of 15 lectures on "Socio-Religious Canvas of Gujarat" for the first and second year theology GVD students at Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara on 17.12.2018 to 21.12.2018.

#### **Publications**

#### **Books by the Faculty of CCD**

- 1. Lobo, Lancy and Kanchan Bharati (eds.), 2019. *Marriage and Divorce in India: Changing Concepts and Practices*, Delhi: Manohar Publications.
- 2. Shah, A.M. and Lancy Lobo (eds.), 2018. *Essays on Suicide and Self-immolation*, New Delhi: Primus Publications.
- 3. Lancy Lobo and Jayesh Shah, 2019. *How People Vote? Civic Literacy and Political Participation*, Jaipur: Rawat Publications (in Press).
- 4. Lancy Lobo and Dhananjay Kumar (eds.), 2019. *Legacy of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar: Analysis and Appraisal*, Jaipur: Rawat Publications (in Press).

#### **Books under Preparation**

- 1. Changing Character of Religiosity in Gujarat: Sacred Space, Time and Persona.
- 2. Anthropological Explorations in East and South-East Asia.
- 3. Ethnography of the Parsees.
- 4. Gujaratnâ Shâlâkiya Shikshanno X-ray (in Gujarati).

#### **Articles by the Faculty of CCD**

- Bharati, Kanchan, Lancy Lobo and Jayesh Shah. 2019. 'Broken Marriages among Catholics of Kheda Origin in Gujarat', in Lancy Lobo and Kanchan Bharati (eds.), *Marriage and Divorce in India: Shifting Concepts and Changing Practices*, New Delhi: Manohar Publishers, pp.153-192.
- Bharati, Kanchan and Jayesh Shah. 2019. 'Emerging Trends in Selection of Marital Spouses: Evidence from Research', in Lancy Lobo and Kanchan Bharati (eds.), *Marriage and Divorce in India: Shifting Concepts and Changing Practices*, New Delhi: Manohar Publishers, pp. 287-314.
- Bharati, Kanchan and Sandhya R. Mahapatro. 2018. 'Health Care and Ageing: A Study of Old Widows in Rural Haryana', *Jharkhand Journal of Development and Management Studies*, Vol. 16 (3), pp. 7829-7844.
- Bharati, Kanchan, Dhananjay Kumar and Jayesh Shah. 2018. 'Rural-Urban Linkage and Change: A Study of Fringe Villages in Vadodara City', *Urban India*, Vol. 38 (I), January June, pp. 72-100.
- Kumar, Dhananjay. 2018. 'The Musahar Folk Song of South Bihar: An Anthropological Insight', *The Asian Man-An International Journal*, Vol. 12, Issue 2, pp. 235-39, UGC Journal list: 1277. DOI: DOI: 10.5958/0975-6884.2018.0031.2.
- Lobo, Lancy. 2019. 'Need for More Social Scientists among Jesuits and in the Catholic Church', *JIVAN*, February, pp. 16-17.
- Lobo, Lancy and Kumar, Dhananjay. 2019. Introduction. In Lancy Lobo and Dhananjay Kumar (eds.), *Legacy of Ambedkar: Analysis and Appraisal*, Jaipur: Rawat Publication (in press).



#### **Current Projects**

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

This research project aims to 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 (samai). The present study seeks to fill this lacunae. It covers the internal social organization of tribes, 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.

#### 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 Englisheducated 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 Anthropological Explorations in East and South-Eastern Asia is in the press.

We are now working on the third volume on Parsees, their religion, traditional culture and society. 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.

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 multifactorial 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.

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 was funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research, Delhi.

# 3. 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 Examinations since 2013. What happens to 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 provide 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. This study was carried out by Dr. Jayesh Shah and Dr. Lancy Lobo. Indian Council of Social Science Research, Western Region, Mumbai had given a grant for this study.

#### Persons to be especially thanked:

Mr. Martin Lobo Fr. Ornellas Coutinho

## YEAR IN PICTURES



National Seminar on Procedural and Substantive Democracy in India On September 7, 2018 at CCD



National Seminar on Procedural and Substantive Democracy in India On September 7, 2018 at CCD

# National seminar on "Suicide and Self-harm: Issues and Challenges" on 7-8th December 2018





### Second Foundation Day Lecture 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019 by Professor (Lord) Bhikhu Parekh, "Interreligious Dialogue: Limits and Possibilities"











### Course on "Critical Thinking of Contemporary India" Was organized during 17.04.18 to 24.04.18 for young Jesuits from India.



**Research Advisory Committee Meeting** 





## Launch of Books



