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NEWSLETTER



INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCI-
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INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Dear Colleagues,

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to meet you all through this message. I express my deep sense of gratitude to you all for electing me unanimously as the President of Indian Sociological Society. Our ISS is the one and only national level professional organisation of sociologists in this country. ISS has sustained its activities without any disruption for decades together. We have held our annual conferences more or less regularly. ISS has been publishing its journal, "Sociological Bulletin" continuously for all these years. Since recently, we have started publishing an additional 3rd issue of Sociological Bulletin. The publication of Newsletter of ISS is another feather on the cap of ISS. I greatly appreciate the sustained and valuable contributions of Prof. N. Jayaram and Prof. Kattakayam in bringing out the issues of the *Sociological Bulletin* and *ISS Newsletter* regularly and continuously.

We have accepted the invitation of the Department of Sociology, Rajasthan University, Jaipur for holding the 34th All India Sociological Conference at Jaipur in the month of December, 2008. We have seven new members in the Managing Committee and Prof. Modi is our new enthusiastic Secretary. Prof. Ravinder Kaur has very kindly accepted the responsibility as the Treasurer of ISS and she indeed deserves a word of appreciation.

Our former President, Prof. P.K.B. Nayar and the Secretary, Prof. Anand Kumar have initiated a few innovative activities. We would definitely like to continue them further. We are exploring the possibilities of getting funding for continuation of these activities. Our ISS is a commonwealth which belongs to all of us. However, it needs to be underlined that at the same time, to enhance its academic glory further, is a responsibility of all of us.

I look forward for a very active co-operation from all of you for the further development of the ISS. Your suggestions and views will be of a great help to us to prepare a blueprint of further activities of the ISS as well as for their implementation. You are all very much welcome to contact me through e.mail or mobile phone.

With warmest regards for now and also forever.

Uttam B. Bhoite E-mail: uttamraob@hotmail.com

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It is a privilege to present you with the 13th issue of the *Newsletter* which illustrates the prevailing academic and intellectual rigour of the ISS. In the last seven years the *Newsletter* has established itself as the voice of the ISS and has played a major role in highlighting academic and sociological ventures.

Anthony Giddens once opined that the fundamental task of sociology today is to tackle the three major sets of changes happening in contemporary societies viz., the impact of globalisation, technological change and shifts in everyday life as well as to analyse what they mean for our lives today. As its editor, it has been my firm conviction that the *ISS Newsletter* should undertake this quest to present the key issues in sociology at least in a nutshell. The *Newsletter* attempts to bring to academicians and sociologists a comprehensive, up-to-date presentation of the seminal issues and events in Indian Sociology.

I am immensely grateful to all our members for their kind cooperation and support in making this *Newsletter* an integral part of the ISS activities.

Jacob John Kattakayam
 E-mail: Johnkattakayam@gmail.com

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Greetings from Jaipur. It is extremely kind of you to have provided me the opportunity to serve the Indian Sociological Society as its Secretary. I am deeply concerned and conscious of the responsibilities and duties you have entrusted to me in this position and role. I will try my best to measure up to your expectations.

ISS being one of the largest national associations of professional sociologists in the world, we are all very conscious that we as a collectivity have great responsibility in contributing to the growth and strengthening of sociology at the international level. We can begin to move in this direction by having formal MOUs with a few select national sociological associations from each region of the world.

We can all be very proud of the quick progress and strides our research committees have made in such a short span of their existence. However, to further improve and strengthen the academic functioning of RCs, all the ISS members need to become member of at least one RC and also that each RC makes it mandatory to hold at least one mid-term seminar / conference to make that RC more vibrant.

It need not be over emphasized that a strong network of regional associations will not only help in the growth of sociology in the respective regions but will also strengthen ISS. As such, we all need to join hands in the establishment of associations in our respective regions and to affiliate these with ISS. It would also help the ISS to prepare a *National Calendar of Sociological Events*.

To meet the growing aspirations, it is now time that an *E-Journal of Sociology* be launched. To march with the times, both *Sociological Bulletin* and *ISS Newsletter* be also made available *on-line*. For faster communication and dissemination of information, a monthly or bi-monthly *ISS-Email* may be considered in addition to the Newsletter. However, the real and substantial benefits will filter down only when members communicate their email addresses to the Society.

I also take this opportunity to appeal to all the members to start communicating their latest postal address, phone and mobile numbers and the membership of their respective RCs in order to update the *Directory of Members* last published in 2001. Sooner the members do it, the better.

I am keenly looking forward to your responses, suggestions, advice for very fruitful and creative years of working together in cooperation and to welcome and meet you all in Jaipur.

With best regards,

Ishwar Modi E-mail: iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in
modi.ishwar@gmail.com

AWARDS/ HONOURS

Padmabhushan to Prof. T.K. Oommen

ISS congratulates **Prof. T.K. Oommen**, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at JNU for being awarded with the **Padmabhushan** by the President of India. After Prof. M.N. Srinivas, Prof. M. S. Gore and Prof. Andre Beteille, he is the fourth sociologist to be awarded with the Padmabhushan. Prof. Oommen is a sociologist of international acclaim and was the first Asian to become the President of the International Sociological Association (1990-1994). He was the key person behind the successful conduct of the 9th World Congress of Sociology in New Delhi 1986 and was able to raise a substantial amount which was transferred to the Indian Sociological Society. He was the President of the ISS (1997-1999) and introduced the Research Committees following the ISA pattern.

Lifetime Achievement Award 2007

The two doyens of Sociology, **Prof. Yogendra Singh** and **Prof. (Smt.) Leela Dube** received the Lifetime Achievement Award 2007 during XXXIII All India Sociological Conference, held at Dharwad. The remarkable contributions made by these sociologists expanded the horizons of sociological literature and raised the standards of Indian Sociology to international heights.

Member - OBC Commission (Maharashtra)

Dr. Anuradha Bhoite a life member of the ISS has been reappointed as a member of the Other Backward Classes Commission of the state of Maharashtra. She has been appointed as social scientist on this statutory body created to deal with issues related with the Other Backward Communities in the state. ISS congratulates her.

Vice- Chairperson - IASSI

Dr. D. Jayalakshmi, member of the M.C. of the ISS and former Professor & Head, Department of Sociology, University of Madras has been elected as the Vice- Chairperson of Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI) which is the Association of Universities, Social Science Research Institutions and Social Science related professional Associations. Hearty felicitations to her.

Professor Yogendra Singh to deliver Professor M.N. Srinivas Memorial Lecture

Prof. M.N. Srinivas Endowment Committee has selected eminent sociologist **Professor Yogendra Singh** to deliver the 8th M.N. Srinivas Memorial Lecture. He has kindly accepted the invitation and agreed to deliver the lecture at the next All India Sociological Conference at Jaipur.

XXXIII ALL INDIA SOCIOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, DHARWAD

A Brief Report

The XXXIII AISC was held in Karnatak University, Dharwad on Nov.29 to Dec.1, 2007. The theme of the conference was "State, Civil Society and Social Justice". The Post Graduate Department of Studies and Research in Sociology of Karnatak University and the Karnataka Sociology Association played host to the Conference. It was attended by over one thousand delegates who included a sizeable number of young sociologists. Besides the Inaugural and Valedictory Sessions, the Conference was enriched by 4 Symposia and sessions of 21 Research Committees.

The inaugural session was presided over by Prof. P. K. B. Nayar, President of the ISS. Padmabhushan Prof. M.S. Gore inaugurated the proceedings of the Conference. This was followed by the Presidential Address. The theme of the address was "Social Justice in a Globalised World". Prof. Michel Wieviorka, President of International Sociological Association (ISA) delivered the Keynote Address. He spoke on "Can the concept of Integration still help us? State and Society in a Global World". Prof. C.A. Somasekharappa, Organising Secretary of the Conference welcomed the dignitaries and delegates and Prof. Anandkumar, Secretary of ISS, proposed the vote of thanks.

A major event of the conference was the presentation of Lifetime Achievement Awards to two doyens of Sociology, Prof. Yogendra Singh and Prof. (Smt.) Leela Dube.

Another unique event was the inauguration of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Karnatak University Department of Sociology. The celebrations were inaugurated by Prof. Yogendra Singh, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at JNU.

The MN Srinivas Memorial Lecture was delivered by Padmabhushan T.K. Oommen, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at JNU, a former President of International Sociological Association and also of ISS. The theme of his presentation was "*Disjunctions between field, method and concept: An appraisal of MN Srinivas*".

The first Symposium was titled "*Affirmative Action in India*" and was chaired by Prof. J.R. Panda, HOD, Sociology of Jammu University. There were 3 speakers. Dr. Nandu Ram, Professor of Sociology at Jawaharlal Nehru University spoke on "Status affirmation through affirmative action". Prof. John Kattakayam, Director, Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, spoke on "Dynamics of affirmative action: problems and prospects". Prof. Thomas E. Weisskopf of the University of Chicago, USA, presented a paper on "Lessons from the Experience of India and the United States with affirmative action".

Symposium II was titled "*People's Movements in India*" and was chaired by Prof. S.K. Srivastava Malavya, Chair, Department of Sociology, Banaras Hindu University. There were 3 speakers in this symposium. Prof. M.N. Karna, former Chair of the Department of Sociology, N.E. Hill University, Shillong, spoke on "Peoples' Movements in India with special focus on the North Eastern Areas". Prof. Bula Bhadra, Chair of the Dept. of Sociology, Calcutta University spoke on "Contextual, conceptual and operational facets and crevices of contemporary women's movements in India". The paper prepared by Prof. R. Kannan, Director, Academic Staff College of Madurai Kamaraj University, titled "Self-help groups as people's movement in India and civil society initiatives" was presented in his absence by Dr. Ashish Saxena of the Dept. of Sociology, University of Jammu.

Symposium III was on Karnataka Society and was titled "*Society in Karnataka: Retrospect and Prospect*". The Symposium was chaired by Prof. N. Jayaram, Managing Editor of *Sociological Bulletin* and Director of ISEC, Bangalore. Prof. Vighnesh Bhat, CESS, Bangalore acted as Rapporteur. There were nine speakers in this symposium viz., Prof. A.G. Mudbidri, Karnatak University, Dharwad; Prof. S.L. Hiremath, Gulbarga University; Prof. Jogan Shankar, Mangalore University; Prof. R. Indira, Mysore University; Prof. Y. Narayana Chetty, Bangalore University; Prof. M.N. Panini, JNU, New Delhi; Prof. G. K. Karanth, ISEC, Bangalore; Prof. B.S. Pareshe Kumar, Bishop Cotton Women's College, Bangalore and Prof. Shiva Halli, University of Manitoba, Canada.

The last in the symposia series was the International Colloquium on "*New Sociology: Perspectives from the Global South*". It was chaired by Prof. Tom Dwyer, President of Brazilian Sociological Association. The speakers included Prof. Michel Wieviorka, President of ISA; Prof. Peter Alexander, Vice President of South African Sociological Association; Prof. T.E. Weisskopf of the University of Chicago; Prof. Joseph Weidenholzer of the University of Linz, Austria and Prof. T.K. Oommen, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at JNU. The colloquium was co-ordinated by Prof. P.K.B. Nayar.

The 21 Research Committees of ISS met separately in several sessions and added vibrancy and professionalism to the whole conference. There were over 500 papers presented at these RCs. A large number of them were by young sociologists. The RC Conveners did a great job in selecting papers of high quality which enhanced the standard of the RC sessions.

The Valedictory Address of the Conference was delivered by Prof. S.K. Saidapur, Vice Chancellor of the Karnatak University.

P.K.B. Nayar

Email: pkbnayar@yahoo.co.in

REPORTS OF CONFERENCES & SEMINARS**National Seminar on Indian Society and Practicing Sociology**

Department of Sociology, University of Kalyani organised a two day ICSSR – sponsored National Seminar on *Indian Society and Practicing Sociology: Changes and Challenges* during 13-14 March, 2008. The Keynote Address was delivered by Padmabhushan Professor T.K. Oommen, Emeritus Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. There were three Plenary Sessions and three Technical Sessions. Distinguished scholars like Prof. M.N. Karna, Prof. Prasanta Ray, Prof. Abhijit Mitra and Prof. Dikshit Sinha actively participated in the Plenary Sessions. About 25 papers were presented by the scholars, convenor and students across the Technical Sessions. The Programme was coordinated by Prof. Samita Manna, Head of the Dept. of Sociology, University of Kalyani.

**Development of Sociology in Western India
Regional Conference in Gujarat University
Ahmedabad**

Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, Gujarat University Ahmedabad organised a two day regional conference on *“Development of Sociology in Western India”* on 11-12 March 2008. Vice chancellor Dr. Parimal Trivedi inaugurated the conference. In his inaugural address Dr Trivedi underlined the importance of Sociology in solving day to day problems in society. The valedictory lecture was delivered by Dr. Amraplai Merchant, former Vice-Chancellor, Dr. BR Ambedkar University Ahmedabad. Professor M. H Makwana, Head of Department (Sociology) and convener of the Regional Conference, giving vote of thanks, expressed concern over the recent developments in Sociology and the need to incorporate the latest trends in the studies of Sociology.

**Collaborative Programme on
“Social Exclusion and Needed Action”**

University of Kalyani in collaboration with Centre for the study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, University of Calcutta organised the workshop on 31st March 2008 at the University of Kalyani. The inaugural speech was given by the eminent educationist and former Member of Parliament Professor Bharati Ray. The key note address was given by Professor Bhaskar Chakraborty, Director of the Centre of Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Calcutta. Prof. Hoimati Dasgupta and Prof. Samita Manna, Dept. of Sociology, Kalyani University delivered the valedictory address and vote of thanks respectively. More than 250 participants from different Universities attended the workshop.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES**The International Rural Network Forum-
“Development Dialogues And Dilemmas”
23- 28 August 2009, Udaipur, India**

The 4th International Rural Network South Asia Group (IRNSAG) in partnership with Seva Mandir, announce this event at Udaipur, Rajasthan, India. The Forum will provide an excellent opportunity to showcase practice and policy in India as well as for Indian and other delegates to network and share knowledge about experiences from around 60 countries, ‘North’ and ‘South’.

For more information contact: Jacob John Kattakayam, Chairman, National Organising Committee.
E-mail: jkkattakayam@yahoo.com/
irnforum09@gmail.com

**3rd International Conference on Sociology
11-14 MAY 2009, Athens, Greece**

Athens Institute for Education and Research

Deadline to submit abstracts: 10th October 2008. Deadline to submit full papers for accepted abstracts: 10th April 2009. For further details visit: www.atiner.gr
Email: atiner@atiner.gr

**5th Global Conference: Persons and Sexuality
3 - 5 November, 2008 Salzburg, Austria**

This research conference seeks to explore issues of sex and sexuality within the context of persons and interpersonal relationships across a range of critical, contextual and cultural perspectives. For further information about the conference please visit:

<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ptb/persons/pas/pas.html> or contact : Rob Fisher
E-Mail: pas5@inter-disciplinary.net

**International Visual Sociology Assn,
Annual Conference 6 - 8 August 2008
Buenos Aires, Argentina**

Theme: Space, Time, and Image. In addition to papers on this theme, the conference welcomes papers that discuss methodological and theoretical issues within visual sociology.

For details contact: Judith Friedman
Website: <http://www.visualsociology.org>

The 2008 New Media & the Gobar Diaspora Symposium

2 to 4 October 2008 at Roger Williams University Bristol, United States. Enquiries : roconnell@rwu.edu. For further details visit: <http://newmediasymposium.org>

Workshop On Alternative Research Methodologies

**SEPHIS, 20-31 October 2008
Metro Manila, Philippines**

The workshop aims to provide PhD students from the South, an opportunity to strengthen the theoretical and methodological quality to their work under the guidance of experienced researchers, also from the South. Successful applicants will receive a grant from SEPHIS (The South-South Exchange Programme for Research on the History of Development) to cover their airfare, accommodation, local transportation, reading, and a modest stipend. For further inquiries, contact SEPHIS

Email : sephis@iisg.nl Website : www.sephis.org

**Crime & Popular Culture: A Multi-Disciplinary
Exploration; 28 - 30 October 2008
Warrensburg, Missouri, United States**

This international academic conference will examine policy, practice, legal, and theoretical issues concerning the interaction between crime and popular culture. Conference papers are anticipated to represent many academic disciplines.

Organised by: University of Central Missouri-Institute of Justice & International studies

Contact name: Franklin Wilson

Website: <http://www.ucmo.edu/cjinst>

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 15 August 2008

**International Conference on
Eradicating Chronic Poverty in India: Policy Issues
and Challenges 1st – 3rd October 2008**

Chronic Poverty Research Centre (CPRC) India invites papers for this International Conference, to be organised at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. For further details, contact Prof. Anand Kumar, Convenor, Centre for Study of Social Systems, J.N.U, New Delhi - 110 067

or visit: Website: <http://www.jnu.ac.in>

E-mail: povertychallenges08@gmail.com with copy to cprc@gmail.com

**International Sociological Association RC 50
International Conferences on Tourism
24 – 26 November 2008, Jaipur**

Organised By: Indian Leisure Studies Association (ILSA) and India International Institute of Social Sciences (IISS) in Collaboration with ISS RC on Leisure & Tourism

Venue: HCM Rajasthan Institute of Public Administration, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur

Theme: *Ever The Twain Shall Meet: Relating International and Domestic Tourism*

For registration and further information please contact:

Prof. Ishwar Modi at iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in or at:

Website: www.rc50.info

Working Group Session on Law and Migration

The session will be held on behalf of Research Committee of Sociology of Law of ISA at Milano in July, 2008. For details contact Chairperson Dr. Arvind Agrawal.

Email : arvind2004@rediffmail.com

Subjectivity, creativity and the institution.

10 - 11 February 2009, Perth, Australia

This conference will examine the ways in which the creative individual operates in a globalised culture. It will discuss the role of subjectivity, the modern institution and traditional cultural practices in the act of creation. The deadline for abstracts/proposals is 28 September 2008.

Enquiries: subjectivityconference@gmail.com

Website: <http://subjectivitycreativityandtheinstitution.com>

**19th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and
Geriatrics, Paris, 5-9 July 2009**

Every four years, the World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics represents a unique and irreplaceable event attended by experts from around the world to discuss the latest findings in the field of ageing. The congress programme is primarily organised around four main themes: Biological sciences, Health sciences / Geriatric Medicine, Behavioural & psychological sciences and Social research, policy and practice

For details visit: <http://www.gerontologyparis2009.com>

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

**XXXV All Kerala Sociological Conference
21-23 November 2008**

The Kerala Sociological Society is holding the 35th All Kerala Sociological Conference on the theme "*Youth and Social Development*" during 21-23 November, 2008 at Sacred Heart College, Thevara, Ernakulam, Kerala. Interested scholars may contact Dr. Sally Joseph, Secretary, KSS.

Email: jacobs11782@hotmail.com

Uttarakhand Sociological Association (SAUK)

Sociological Association, Uttarakhand 'SAUK' is organising its first state level conference on "*21st Century Sociology, Social Development and Marginalised: Perspectives and Concerns, Indian/ Uttarakhand Context*" at the Department of Sociology, Kumaun University, Nainital on October 19-20, 2008.

For further details contact : Prof. Bhagwan S Bisht

Email: bsbisht_headsocio@rediffmail.com,

bsbisht_hodsocio@rediffmail.com

VIII A.P. Sociological Conference

Andhra Pradesh Sociological Society is organising its 8th Annual Conference at B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad during 28-30 November, 2008. The theme of the conference is "*Development: Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policies*".

Contact: Dr. Ghanta Chakrapani, Organizing Secretary

E-mail: chakrapanighanta@yahoo.com

INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY**XXXIV ALL INDIA
SOCIOLOGICAL CONFERENCE****(December 27-29, 2008)***Organised by***Department of Sociology,
University of Rajasthan, Jaipur***Venue***University of Rajasthan, Jaipur***Theme***“YOUTH, GLOBALISATION AND SOCIAL
TRANSFORMATION”****Symposium – I *Globalisation and North-South
Hiatus: Dilemmas, Disparities
and Dynamics (International
Symposium)*****Symposium –II *Globalisation, Youth and
Challenges of Reconciliation in
Transitional Societies.*****Symposium –III *Globalisation and Issues of Core
and Periphery with special
reference to Marginalised
Groups in India.*****Symposium –IV *Socio-Cultural Transformation
in Rajasthan: Opportunities
and Challenges.******Invitation to submit abstracts to the conference***

It is indeed a great pleasure for us to offer a very cordial welcome to all the delegates of the 34th All India Sociological Conference in the beautiful city of Jaipur. Delegates who wish to present their papers in the conference will have to do it through any of the 22 Research Committees or through the ad-hoc group on Sociology of Law of ISS. They are advised to submit two copies of the abstracts of their papers in about 300 – 500 words to the concerned RC convenors or coordinator of the Ad-hoc group in the prescribed abstract format not later than September 30, 2008. There should be a clear mention of the name of the presenter, his/her membership number, name and number of the RC to which the abstract is being submitted. The acceptance of the abstract or otherwise will be communicated by the convenors of the respective RCs by October 15, 2008. The RC convenors are requested to send an edited copy of each abstract received by them

from paper presenters to the Organising Secretary of the conference not later than October 15, 2008. The members of the Indian Sociological Society (Life / Ordinary / Student) who have paid the RC membership fee (Rs.200/- for 2 years and Rs.400/- for 5 years) per Research Committee of which they have become members alone are eligible to present their papers in the conference. The paper presenters will have to register themselves for the conference by paying the delegation fees as shown below.

It would be possible for the Organising Committee to include only those abstracts in the Abstract Book which are received before October 31, 2008.

Registration fee

| Category of participants | Upto 31 st August | Upto 15 th October | After 15 th October |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Delegates | Rs.1,000/- | Rs. 1,200/- | Rs. 1,400/- |
| Accompanying persons | Rs. 900/- | Rs. 1,100/- | Rs.1,300/- |
| Child below 12 yrs. | Rs. 800/- | Rs. 800/- | Rs.900/- |
| Extra bed | Rs. 500/- | Rs. 500/- | Rs. 500/- |
| Research Scholars/Students | Rs. 700/- | Rs. 800/- | Rs. 900/- |

Registration fees for foreign participants

(for various ISA category countries)

For A Category Countries -US\$ 150, For B Category Countries - US\$ 100, For C Category Countries - US\$ 50. The delegation fee prescribed for the foreign participants is exclusive of their accommodation charges.

The registration fees may be sent to the Organising Secretary by a DD drawn on any nationalised bank drawn in favour of, **“The Organising Secretary, 34th All India Sociological Conference” payable at Jaipur.** The delegates who have paid their registration fees on or before October 15, 2008 are advised to produce the receipts at the time of registration at the conference.

Rules of Refund of Delegation fees.

- i. Upto 1/11/2008 - 75% of the fees paid.
- ii. Upto 15/12/2008 - 50% of the fees paid.
- iii. After 15/12/2008 - No refund.

THE CITY OF JAIPUR

Jaipur, aptly nicknamed as “Pink City” was once the capital city of erstwhile princely State and now, it is the capital city of the state of Rajasthan. Its very rich cultural heritage and eventful history make it distinct from others in

manifold ways. Now it is a fast growing mini metro city of the country. The famous pink hue which has become a hallmark of the city was given by its scholar king, Maharaj Savai Ramsingh, towards the end of the 19th century. Jaipur is a city of palaces and forts. One of the landmarks of the city is its 'Hawa Mahal' which is a major attraction for the tourists. Jaipur schools of Dhrupad and Classical Kathak dance are known all over the world. The city is also famous for its Calico fabric printing (Sanganeri print), tie and dye print (Bandhej and Lahariya prints) handmade paper and more importantly, marble statues.

The Climate

The climate here in late December is very pleasant with a fine mix of slightly cold weather and bright sunshine. The nights in general are very cool while the days are tolerably cold. The delegates are advised, therefore, to bring with them enough warm clothings suitable for both days and nights.

The Host, **University of Rajasthan** is the largest and the oldest University in the state of Rajasthan. It has a beautiful and impressive campus spread over more than 800 acres of land. The captivating stone architecture of its buildings is fine specimen of the unique Rajasthani style of architecture. The campus ambience is very propitious for various academic activities. The Department of Sociology in this university is one of the leading departments of Sociology in the country and has had the honour and privilege of having a galaxy of eminent sociologists on its faculty. Prof. T.K.N. Unnithan, Prof. Yogendra Singh, Prof. Indra Deva, Prof. T. K. Oommen, Prof. K. L. Sharma, Prof. Ram Ahuja, Prof. N. K. Singhi and Prof. Shyam Lal are just a few among them. The high intellectual and academic traditions set by these stalwarts are being carried further by the scholars in the present day faculty.

Connectivity to other parts of India & Abroad

The city of Jaipur is conveniently and comfortably connected with the rest of India by air, rail and bus routes. The delegates from abroad have an easy access to Jaipur via Mumbai (Bombay) and Delhi.

Air : Jaipur has an international airport which is being served by a number of airlines including Indian Airlines, Jet Airways, Kingfisher, Spice, Indigo and Deccan Air, besides a few international carriers. It is connected by direct flights with all the metro cities in the country.

Trains: The city is very well connected with broad gauge rail lines and through long distance trains with all parts of India. There are trains running directly from North East, deep South and North to Jaipur.

Buses: Jaipur is located on a four lane highway running between Delhi and Ahmedabad. There are frequently plying luxury buses between Jaipur and Delhi and Agra. Jaipur also receives buses from quite a few major cities of Punjab,

Haryana, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

Local transportation : A fleet of buses will be available to the delegates to commute from their places of stay to the venue of the Conference and back on the Conference days.

Local hospitality

All the delegates who register upto October 15, 2008 will be provided with free accommodation in the various guest houses located in and around the University campus. The accommodation will be available only for 4 days starting from December 26th night to 30th morning. Adequate and necessary facilities will be provided to the delegates including hot water, beds and quilts. Accommodations will be provided on first come-first serve basis in the order of time and date of registration. Those who would prefer to have better accommodation for themselves on extra payment such as in hotels may let the Organising Secretary know about it.

Sight Seeing

It would be possible for the Organising Committee to arrange conducted sight seeing tours on 30th December, 2008 provided an adequate number of delegates register for them well in advance. There are several interesting tourist places in Rajasthan which the delegates may like to visit. Some of them are as follows :-

Ajmer : Pushkar, Dargah etc; Bharatpur : Keola Dev, National Bird Sanctuary and Deeg Palaces, Bikaner: The city known for its palaces and forts; Chittorgarh : Famous Fort and the place of Johar of Rani Padmini and known for legendary Rana Pratap and Meera Bai; Jaisalmer : The Golden City known for its beautiful Havelis and Sand dunes; Jodhpur : The Suncity known for its fort and places; Mount Abu: Famous Hill station with beautiful Dilwara Jain Temples known for exquisite marble carvings; Ranthambore : Tiger forest reserve; Sariska : Tiger forest reserve and Shekhawati.

National Organising Committee

Prof. Uttam B Bhoite, President, ISS
 Prof. Ishwar Prasad Modi, Secretary, ISS
 Dr. Ravinder Kaur, Treasurer, ISS
 Dr. Arvind Agrawal, Organising, Secretary

All correspondence to be addressed to:

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| <p>ISS Ad-hoc group on Sociology of Law Coordinator Dr. Arvind Agrawal Dept. of Sociology University of Rajasthan, Jaipur Email: arvind2004@rediffmail.com</p> | |

RCs AT DHARWAD

RC-02: Marriage, Family and Kinship

Four technical sessions and one business meeting were organised by the RC-02. In the first session the discussion focused on reconceptualising marriage, family and kinship in the context of national/global challenges. Dr. M. N. Shrivastava chaired the session. In the second session, a symposium was organised with senior colleagues Prof. A. Ramanama, Prof. Anuradha Bhoite, Prof. K. Gopal and Prof. I. P. Modi as speakers. The discussion was around theoretical and methodological issues in the study of the institutions of Marriage, Family and Kinship. Prof. Ramanamma chaired the session. Third session was devoted to Marriage and Marital Relations and was chaired by Prof. Indu Mathur. Fourth session focused on Family: Changing Functions and Relations and was chaired by Dr. Prabhakar Draxe. In all, seventeen presentations were made including the guest speakers. The committee 02 is planning a seminar on The Process of Global Changes and Marriage and Family in India in collaboration with Patna University in the second week of November. Details will be communicated to members and others concerned when ready.

RC-03: Economy, Polity and Society

12 papers were presented at the conference in four sessions. The first session was broadly devoted to theoretical perspectives, which focused on the issues of civil society, social capital, and social exclusion. The second session broadly focused on empirical studies dealing with social justice for different marginalised groups in India. Session three in line with the main conference theme discussed on governance, identity, empowerment, and human security issues. Fourthly an Interactive Session on Affirmative Action was held. The Panel Members were: Prof. Thomas Weisskopf, and Prof. Satish Deshpande, who spoke about their respective research on affirmative action in India and the US, raising salient issues of policy concern in the two countries in the present juncture. A lively interactive discussion followed all the sessions.

RC-06: Religion and Religious Communities

A total of 10 papers were presented on a wide range of topics like caste councils and judicial system, Bhootha cult in Karnataka, Buddhism and Hindu religion, Reproductive Health status of Muslim women, Muslim PG Girl students and their values and aspirations, role of NGO's and tribal empowerment with special reference to Gujarat, Television - Gender and Religion in post liberal India, Dynamics of Hindu Religion, etc. It was extensively discussed as to how the patriarchal values and domestication of women are reinforced and marketed thorough religious symbols via media. Above all the

deliberations focussed on how the religious rites and rituals have largely become status symbols than devotion in a globalised social context. Besides regular sessions RC also organised a symposium on Religion and Development chaired by Dr. Anil Mudbidri and Dr. B.K. Swain, Nagpur University, spoke on "Weber's views on Religion and Economic Development".

RC-07: Rural, Peasant and Tribal Communities

36 papers were presented in RC 07 in various sessions which discussed on the three broad areas; Rural Communities in Transition (10 papers), Tribal Communities: Problems and Prospects (8 papers) and Peasants in Transitional Society (18 papers). The major areas discussed under rural communities were rural migration, rural women, Dalits, SHGs, rural problems. The highlights of Peasant in traditional society covered globalisation and its impact on agriculture, technology in agriculture, land reforms in agrarian transition and rural development. The study of tribal communities brought to light the issues such as Law and Justice in tribal society, Social mobility, Impact of globalisation, tribals in transition. Distinguished Professors like J.K. Pundir, Gulshetty B.S. and S. Gurusamy had chaired and conducted the deliberations in the identified thematic areas. On an average 50 participants attended each session.

RC-09: Dalits and Backward Classes

A total of 12 papers were presented on a range of topics that included Atrocities on Dalits in Gujarat, Problems of Education among Paura Karmikas, Problem of Education among the Tribal Women in Assam, Elements Responsible for Antagonistic Relationship between the Backward Classes and the Dalits, The Growing Awareness of the Indian Women of their Rights, Prospects of Extension Communication Strategies in the Transfer of Tasar Culture Technology to Motivate SC, ST and EWS of the Society in Non-Traditional Areas of Kolhapur District for Rural Development, Interpersonal Relations of Scheduled Caste Employees at their Work Place, Socio-Economic Conditions & Problems of Scheduled Caste Agricultural Labourers, Anusuchit Jatio Mein Ashprushyata, Mandal Commission and the Identity of Other Backward Classes in India, Dalito Ka Vartaman Samajik Pariddshy and Dr Ambedkar and the Social Mobility of Dalits

RC-10: Gender Studies

30 papers were presented in RC 10 that was spread over five different sessions. The first technical session was a round table discussion on the topic New Technologies and Marginalisation, which was organised

jointly with RC11 and RC21. Prof. Raj Mohini Sethi introduced the theme while Prof. Sherry Sabbarwal, Prof. Vipul Bhadra and Prof. S.A. Salunkhe initiated the discussion. The second session was devoted to issues of gender discourse on violence in Indian society. The house observed that issues of domestic violence find some relief in the Domestic Violence Act, however, the issue of falling sex ratios needs concerted efforts of the state, civil society and the academic community to initiate a “save the daughter revolution”. In the third and fourth sessions papers were presented on contexts and issues of gender such as gender & work, gender & education and trans-gender & sports. The third session was chaired by Prof. Indu Mathur and Prof. M.N.Panini while the fourth session was chaired by Prof. Saguna Pathy and Dr. Madhu Nagla. Last session dealt with issues of women empowerment and was chaired by Prof. Ramanamma and Prof. Sarita Kamra.

RC-11: Environment and Society.

34 Abstracts were received and 26 papers were presented in three sessions. There were 8 papers on the first theme i.e. “Environment and State”; 9 papers each on the other two themes namely “Environment and Civil Society” and “Environment, Development and Social Justice”. Prof. R.B. Patil, Convener of RC 11, chaired the business session. The sessions were attended by a large number of members of other RCs and students and Research Scholars of Karnataka University. The house is concerned more on environmental action particularly in terms of judicious planning of policies and programmes by the State and people’s action to save environmental resources for the future generations. The cash prize (Rs. 1000/-) for Young Scholar below the age of 30 years, for presenting the best Research Paper was given to Mr. Sarada Prasanna Das, Research Scholar, JNU, for his paper entitled “ Globalisation and Indigenous People: Question of Survival”. A new feature was added this year in terms of Round Table Discussion jointly organised by RC10, 11,13 and 21 on the theme “ New Technology and Marginalisation”.

RC-12: Population, Health and Society

A total of 15 papers were presented in RC 12 which explored and elaborated the theoretical as well as empirical health issues among the different segments of the population. There were serious discussions on the topics such as the Interface between Sociology and Public health, Nursing and public health, Health Dynamics and Marginalised Communities, Feminisation of HIV/AIDS, Urban Population dynamics, Community-led health promotion, Nutritional Status of Women, Perception of Illness and Health, Adolescent Health and Sexual Risk Behaviour, Commercial sex workers, Soft drink consumption, etc. RC 12 held its elections in which Prof. Tulsi Patel, Department of Sociology, University of Delhi

was elected as the Convener, Dr. Mohmamd Akram, Aligarh Muslim University as the Secretary and Prof. Suhita Chopra Chatterji and Prof. Nagendra Prakash as the executive committee members. The term of the co-convener (Dr.Arima Mishra) and Treasurer (Dr. M.Thamilarasan) was renewed for a period of two years. RC 12 brought out its first *Newsletter* which was widely circulated during the conference.

RC-13: Science, Technology and Society

RC-13 conducted five technical sessions and a business session. A Round Table Discussion was organised in collaboration with three Research Committees—RCs-10, 11 and 21 on the dialectical relationship between Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) and Marginalisation. Professor Bipul Kumar Bhadra, introduced the theme and drew attention to the positive and negative impacts of the new technologies and urged for framing and implementation of an inclusive science and technology policy. A total of 19 papers were presented in the other four sessions which covered a variety of issues like indigenous practices and techniques, organisational culture in software firms, tissue technology, Information Technology Act, intellectual property rights and Technology in parenthesis with globalisation, gendered consumption, rural development, education, etc. The sessions were chaired by Prof. Bipul Kumar Bhadra and Prof. D. C. Choudhary. The papers generated active participation and fruitful intellectual interactions. Finally, in the business session the concerned members renewed the term of the office bearers for a further period of two years (2008-2009) and another member was included in the Executive Committee.

RC-15: Social change and development

RC 15 organised four sessions and one discussion at Dharward Conference. The first session was chaired by Dr. Chura Giri and Dr. B. N. Prasad which discussed on the theme – State, civil society and Nation Building. The presentations indicated the new trends of debates both at theoretical and praxis levels in Indian civil society. The second session on Tribal world – Issues for development, chaired by Dr. M Purvachar. thrust the need of further sociological inquiries with theoretical depth. The third session was on Subaltern issues and change which was chaired by Dr. Ravindranath Rao. Session four focused on dynamics of social change which was chaired by Dr. B. Ramamurthy. A discussion was also held on increasing religiosity and caste demands, chaired by Dr. Madhu Nagla.

RC-18: Sociology of Crime and Deviance

The issues of crime and deviance were addressed from gender and developmental perspectives by the paper presenters and also in the discussions followed. The vulnerable sections of society; particularly, children, women

and tribals were focussed. The house expressed concern with the growing prevalence and incidence of crime and deviant behavior in the Indian scenario. The solutions to tackle the menace were also debated and urged to develop context specific sociological approach to address the issues. Out of the 13 abstracts submitted, 9 meaningful presentations were made and these touched four main issues (a) of children, specially of child abuse and entry of children in crime; (b) women related concerns, namely, violence against women, including reference to new forms and understanding problems of domestic violence victims; causes of criminality among women with specific reference to gender dimensions; sexual harassment of women at the work place; consequence of gender biased policing and need for more women in the work force; (c) problems among the tribal; of deviant behavior in particular of alcoholism and (d) importance of education in dealing with crime and deviance related problems.

RC-19: Ageing and Social structure

32 abstracts were submitted to RC out of which 24 papers were presented in the five academic sessions. The participants discussed a wide array of issues pertaining to the changing social structure and the consequences upon the different age groups in Indian society. Along with empirical validations many papers critically appraised the various theoretical approaches on ageing and outlined practical solutions for a healthy living space. The major themes that fuelled the intellectual discourse were, the living space : the old age homes- the family linkages, the socio-psycho-health problems of elderly, ageing: the rural-urban dichotomy, retirement- the adjustment issues, legal rights and future prospects for a healthy life, etc. The academic sessions were chaired by Prof. Jacob John Kattakayam, Dr. Vijayalakshmi Reddy, Dr. Jayashree, Dr. Aravind Joshi, Dr. M.V. Lakshmi Devi and Dr. Chandrashekar. In the business session it was decided to open a new website and newsletter for the RC.

RC-21: Social Problems and Marginalised Groups

RC 21 conducted one round table discussion, one panel discussion and five regular sessions at the Dharward Conference. Round table discussion on New Technologies and Marginalisation was held by RC 21 in collaboration with RCs 10, 11 and 13 and chaired by Prof Raj Mohini Sethi. Panel discussion was held on :State and Social Justice and Marginalisation- Affirmative action and De-Marginalisation, chaired by Prof. R. Shankar, Barathidasan University and Prof. A. Karuppiah. There were twenty three scholarly presentations in 5 regular sessions. The sessions were chaired by Prof. B. B. Mohanty, Prof. S. M. Dhahivale, Prof. B. C. Barik, Dr J. Krishnamurthy and Prof. Indira respectively.

RC PROGRAMMES AT XXXIV ISS CONFERENCE, JAIPUR

RC-15: Social change and development

Given below are the themes for the Jaipur conference.

1. Ideologies and vision for developmental model.
2. Decentralised democracy-rural transformations.
3. Challenges of change to future society.
4. New Social movements-issues of rights.
5. Caste, Family-change and crisis in institutions.

Besides, members are free to present views on other dynamics of social change.

RC-13: Science Technology and Society

The proposed themes in the forthcoming conference:

1. Sociological Perspectives on the Role of Science and Technology in Transforming Society- New Conceptualisations.
2. Information and /or Knowledge society.
3. Capitalism, Science and Technology
4. Globalisation, Science and Technology
5. Research & Development and the role of the State.
6. Environment, Science and Technology.

RC-21: Social Problems and Marginalised groups

Central theme : Potentialities and Predicaments of Indian youth in the new global order/global market- strategies : Reversing marginalisation, Joining global mainstream. Following are the sub themes.

1. Youth, class, technology and gender: the interface
 2. Youth and state policies : assessment
 3. Relevance of research on youth related issues.
- Youth and digital divide : disabilities, inabilities and capacity – building

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International Conference on Development, Freedom and Welfare 19-20 December 2008, New Delhi

The year 2008 marks Prof. Amartya Sen's 75th birthday. In order to honour him, Cornell University and Institute for Human Development jointly organises the conference on the above theme. Papers are invited from young researchers below 40 years.

Last date of submission of abstract 31st July 2008.

Email: senconference@gmail.com

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Approved by MC on 17 March 2007

(Continued from *ISS Newsletter* May 2007 issue)

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ISS Election 2007

Election to the post of President, Secretary and 5 members of the Managing Committee was held during the last part of 2007. A total of 751 ballots were received. They were counted on December 29 2007, 6 ballots were found invalid. The following persons were declared elected to the different posts by the Election Officer.

President : Prof. Uttam B Bhoite (Elected unopposed)

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Prof. U. B. Bhoite (till 31-12-2009)

ISS acknowledges with thanks the services rendered by the Election Officer Prof. Nirmal Singh (New Delhi) for the smooth conduct of the election. For detailed election results please visit ISS website : www.insoso.org

ISA Isagram

International Sociological Association Secretariat is distributing by e-mail to all ISA members in good standing a circular called 'isagram' which brings information on the forthcoming events. Those interested are invited to visit the following address at the ISA website : <http://www.isa-sociology.org/isagram/>.

OBITUARY

Prof. Jaganath Pathy

Prof. Jaganath Pathy left for heavenly abode on January 25, 2008. Hailing from a village Panderkhali, Ganjam district, Orissa, he completed his Post Graduation in Social Anthropology at Sagar University, M.P. Subsequently, he did his M.Phil & Ph.D in Centre for Studies of Social System, Jawaharlal Nehru University. He joined as a lecturer in the dept. of Sociology and Anthropology at Sambalpur University, Orissa, in the year 1976. Within a short span of time, because of his academic excellence, he became a Reader and there after Professor in South Gujarat University, Surat. He was the recipient of the prestigious I.C.S.S.R Career Award Fellowship on Tribal Studies. During his professional career, Prof. Pathy visited overseas countries several times on different capacities. He was one of the ardent Marxist scholars which is evident in his research publications. He was a member of Managing Committee of Indian Sociological Society for many years and contributed significantly to the growth of the discipline. Being a member in various bodies like U.G.C, I.C.S.S.R, Govt of India, Govt of Orissa Prof. Pathy contributed immensely for the cause of marginalized sections of society. We deeply mourn the premature death of our beloved teacher and pray God that his soul may rest in peace.

(Umesh Ch Saboo, B.C Barik and Suprava Khuntia)

Prof. Jamal Siddique

Prof. Jamal Siddique (LMI-1010) who was teaching Sociology at the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh passed away in a car accident. He was an active member of Indian Sociological Society. He was a member of the managing committee of ISS during 1999 to 2005.

Ms. Suhasini C. Kohok

Ms. Suhasini C. Kohok (Nasik) was a senior faculty member of Sociology at the KTHM College, Nashik. She was associated with various academic committees; and programmes at the University of Pune and the Y B Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Nashik.

Fr. Abraham Kallarackal, C.M.I

Fr. Abraham Kallarackal (LMI-1374) was teaching in the Dept. of Sociology at Sacred Heart College, Thevara, Kerala for the last two decades.

We deeply mourn on the sad demise of our colleagues and pray to God that their souls may rest in peace.

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The Professor M. N. Srinivas Endowment Fund was jointly set up by the Indian Sociological Society and the Indian Council of Social Science Research in 2001. This Fund has instituted a prize for young sociologists/social anthropologists for publishing the best sociological/social anthropological paper in any of the social science journals/edited volumes, in English, in India. The prize will carry a sum of Rs.2,000.

Papers published during 01 January 2005 - 31 December 2007 are eligible for consideration. The authors, who are life members or ordinary members of the Society with at least one year's standing, will be eligible for the contest. The author must be 40 years or less in age on 31 December 2007. If the paper is co-authored, all the authors must be 40 years or less in age on 31 December 2007. The authors will submit only one paper for consideration.

A reprint of the paper along with photocopies of the title page of the journal/edited volume and age proof must reach the office of Indian Sociological Society on or before 31 August 2008. The typewritten/ handwritten/computer print-out manuscript will not be accepted. Besides the authors, other scholars are also welcome to bring suitable papers to the notice of the selection committee for consideration.

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