

Columbia University and held many visiting professorships across Europe, Asia and North America. His lecture on 'Lineages of political society' deals with the relationship between norms and practices that has resulted in a series of improvisations. In excavating these exceptional foundations of normative political theory, he shows how these disruptions may indeed constitute the foundations for a more inclusive concept of democracy.

□ **Launch Function for Prof. Malcolm Adiseshiah Centenary, 4 May 2009**

The Launch Function for the Malcolm Adiseshiah Centenary Celebrations was with a ceremonial lecture on "Agrarian Crisis: The Way Ahead" by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, Chairman, MSSRF. This was followed by MIDS-NABARD co-sponsored workshop on "Financing for Rural Development". The workshop looked at how old and new forms of rural financing such as loans from rural banks and cooperatives and micro credits from self-help groups and micro financial institutions act as a counter to farmers' distress and agrarian crisis. During the first session on 'Rural Indebtedness and Agrarian Crisis' two papers were presented: a) "Farm Sector Indebtedness: Whipping a Wrong Horse" by Yogeshwari and R.S. Deshpande, ISEC, Bangalore; b) "Debt, Distress and Farmers' Suicides

in Vidarbha, Maharashtra" by Srijit Mishra, IGIDR, Mumbai. The second session on "Financial Innovations and New Approaches" two papers were presented: a) "Institutional Innovations and Rural Credit to the Poor Including Marginal and Small Farmers: Some Initiatives from Andhra Pradesh" by D. Narasimha Reddy, Formerly University of Hyderabad; b) "Financing Rural Development: Need for a Sustainable Livelihood Approach" by K. Narayanan Nair, CDS, Trivandrum.

□ **Malcolm Adiseshiah Centenary Public Lecture Series, 9 July 2009**

The public lecture series is organised by MIDS as part of the Malcolm Adiseshiah Centenary being celebrated during April 2009 - April 2010. These public lectures are planned to be held in selected institutions in Chennai and other cities of the state during the centenary year. Professor Kaliappa Kalirajan delivered the first lecture under the series on "Globalisation: An analysis of key aspects of the emergence of big malls and retails in India". He is a noted applied economist, affiliated to the Crawford School of Economics and Government, Australian National University, Canberra and the FASID-GRIPS Joint Graduate Program, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo.

Project workshop on Transforming Livelihoods

A Workshop on 'Transforming Livelihoods: Work, Migration and Poverty in the Tiruppur garment cluster, India' was held on 15 July 2009. A central question posed in the study is: how are existing social and economic inequalities and relationships in the Tiruppur region reproduced or challenged in the process of economic growth embedded in global production networks? It essentially sought to understand the chain of linkages that connect rural areas to an urban industry and an urban industry to a global world of production and trade. This was done through a multi-sited study of transformation of Tiruppur and its backward and forward linkages in terms of production, labour and livelihoods.

From the Editor...

Greetings to you all! This is the first issue of Midstream after I have assumed office on April 2, 2009. But, more importantly, the release of this issue also coincides with the centenary of Prof. Malcolm S. Adiseshiah, the Founder Chairman and Director of MIDS. Throughout the Centenary Year (April 2009-April 2010), MIDS is planning for several events and publications to celebrate the memory of Prof. Adiseshiah and to highlight his major contributions.

The centenary celebration was formally launched on May 4, 2009

by Prof. M. S. Swaminathan, Chairman of MSSRF and Member of Parliament, with his ceremonial presentation: *The Agrarian Crisis: The Way Ahead*. On that same day, an MIDS-NABARD co-sponsored workshop: *Financing for Rural Development* was also held as the first event of the year-long centenary celebration. The Launch Function on May 4, 2009 is also notable for the fact that it brought together most of the past chairpersons and directors of MIDS on one stage!

MIDS is also planning a number of public lectures under Prof. Malcolm Adiseshiah Centenary Public Lecture Series, which will be organized jointly with prominent academic institutions both in Chennai and other cities in Tamil Nadu. The inaugural lecture under

MIDS owes its existence to the commitment and generosity of Dr. Malcolm Adiseshiah and his wife Elizabeth, who founded it as a private institute in 1971. In 1977, it was reconstituted as a national institute jointly sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi and the Govt. of Tamilnadu. Dr. Adiseshiah's vision has helped MIDS to develop as a forum for critical thinking on development issues.

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this series was delivered by Prof. Kaliappa Kalirajan of the Australian National University on July 9, 2009 at MIDS.

Obviously, there will be a bustling of events and activities at MIDS during the rest of this year and also early next year. These activities along

with the regular academic events and the quality publications that MIDS is traditionally known for are likely to further enhance our profile and visibility. In achieving this common task, just like my predecessors, I count on the full support and cooperation of the faculty, staff, and students.



MIDS Directors and Chairpersons past and present with Professor M.S. Swaminathan



Professor Kaliappa Kalirajan being facilitated by Chairperson Prof. R. Radhakrishna and Prof. R. Maria Saleth

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

☐ **Gijubhai Badekha Memorial Lecture 2009, 20 January 2009**

This is the first Gijubhai Badekha memorial lecture that was held in South India. It was organised jointly by the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and MIDS. The lecture by Professor T.S. Saraswati retired Senior Professor in Human Development and Family studies, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda was on "Culture and Development: Implications for class room practices". According to Dr. Saraswati, culture is aimed at understanding and evaluating the importance and significance of culture and cultural differences influencing the society and individuals. It examined the construction of knowledge and cultural variations and similarities in various domains of human functioning. This lecture tried to give a new panorama for the role of culture and development and its implications for teacher training and classroom practices. Class rooms are considered as the best place for stereotyping the children and they are accepting the determined role and unknowingly mould the behaviour and personality on the basis of class room experiences. One must be ready to accept and enhance the richness of cultural differences in a positive and productive manner to brighten the class room climate and the learning process.

☐ **Workshop on Research Methodology for Doctoral Scholars, 16-19 March 2009**

The workshop sought to bring together research scholars so as to: a) provide them a forum to interact and exchange notes on their ongoing work and b) Expose/train them to the various conceptual and methodological issues involved in studying such processes. The theme for

the workshop was *Contemporary Issues and Methods in Social Research*. Forty three researchers from various colleges and universities in Tamil Nadu as well as from other ICSSR institutions in South India participated in the workshop and presented their research proposals. Thirteen resource persons spoke on different aspects of social science research. The researchers were familiarised with key aspects of research such as, formulating and refining the research questions, objectives and methods. The topics covered various contemporary research issues such as, interplay between theory and empirical work, role of deductive and inductive methods, importance of right combination of qualitative and quantitative data and issues involved in combining subjective and objective information. The workshop focused on issues involved in using secondary data and collecting and analyzing the primary data in areas including economy, agriculture, industry, poverty, education, discrimination, politics and environment. The research scholars during the feedback session felt that the Workshop was useful for them to refine their proposal and they wanted this workshop to be held for long period (at least one week) as against four days at present.

☐ **Founder's Day Lecture 2009, 3 April 2009**

The Founder's Day Lecture is organised in honour of the founder of MIDS, Dr. Malcolm S. Adiseshiah (1910-1994) since 2004 as a grateful acknowledgement of his contributions. Partha Chatterjee, who delivered the Founder's Day lecture this year, is Professor at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta and was its director from 1997 to 2007. He is also a Professor of Anthropology at

MIDS SEMINARS

FACULTY AND VISITORS

Libraries, Social Development and Public Communication in Contemporary India, Ajit Pyati, Assistant Professor, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada, 27-01-2009.

Putting People First: Towards a Pedagogy of the Heart, Anne Escrader, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada, 28-01-2009.

'Herskovits at the Heart of Blackness' A Vital Pictures Production, Film directed by, Llewellyn Smith, Discussant: Vincent Brown, Producer/Director of Research, 15-04-2009.

Necessity and Desire: Coca-cola and Cultural Critique, Prof S. Shankar, Director, Center for South Asian Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 10-06-2009.

Speaking the Public Sphere, Madras 1905-1919, Dr Bernard Bate, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Yale University, 18-06-2009.

Territorialising Nature: Forest Conservation and Management in the Central Western Ghats of South India, Ajit Menon, Associate Professor, MIDS, 14-07-2009.

Local Outcomes of Labour Market Discrimination in Garment Establishment Chains, Prof. Jeemol Unni, Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad, 16-07-2009.

The Economic Approach to the Issues of Climatic Change, Prof Patrick Criqui, Laboratoire Economic de la Production et de l'Integration Internationale Domaine Universitaire, Grenoble, France, 17-07-2009.

AFFILIATES AND STUDENTS

AFFILIATES

07-01-2009

Implementation of Labour Rights: Experiences from the Construction Industry in Chennai, Annika Wetlesen.

STUDENTS

12-01-2009

Structural Changes in Silk weaving in Arani Region, N.A. Arivukkarasi
Some Aspects of Agricultural Growth in Tamil Nadu, Anbu Packiaraj

29-07-2009

Some aspects of socio-economic change in the rural Arani with special reference to silk weaving, N.A. Arivukkarasi
Economics of Adaptation to Climate Change: What we learn from Impact and Vulnerability Literature, Chandra Sekhar Bahinipati

History of Muslim women's Education in Colonial Tamil Nadu, R. Abida Begum
Impact of Measuring Water Pollution Induced by Industrial Effluent on Human Health, Michael Venish

Gender and Environment: A Critical Analysis with Special Reference to Wayanad, Kerala, Nitha G. Nair

30-09-2007

Land in Economic Theory, A Review of Studies on Land Sales Markets and the Kerala Scenario, V.P. Nirmal Roy
Commodity Futures trading and Agricultural Sector in India: A Case of Pepper and Rubber, B.S. Sumalatha
Special Economic Zones: Contributions and Controversies, A. Bhavana

Economic Valuation of Health Impacts of Industrial Pollution in Noyyal River Basin, Tamil Nadu, P. Chandrasekaran
Growing Urban Stress, Lack of Long-term Policy and Fragmented Institutions: The Study of Chennai Urban and Peri-Urban Areas from Environment and livelihood Perspectives, S. Vanathy.

FOCUS OF FACULTY RESEARCH

Dr. **Ajit Menon**'s focus over the last year has been mostly on 'Public Policies and Forests in the Central Western Ghats of South India' in which he (along with his collaborators) have tried to understand how forest policy and law have impacted upon local communities use of forests as well as their overall livelihoods.

Dr. **S. Anandhi** continues to pursue her interest in the area of caste and gender in colonial Tamilnadu with her publications related to women's writing on caste and modernity. Her public lectures and reviews are broadly related to the themes of gender in Dravidian politics, institutionalization of women's studies and institutional histories of women's organizations in south India.

Dr. **Ananta Kumar Giri** continues his work on new horizons of human development and social transformations. He has conducted a workshop on the theme of "Compassion and Confrontation: New Horizons of Human Development and Social Transformations" in Bangalore, Delhi, Canada and Thailand.

Dr. **V. Chandrasekara Naidu** works mainly on issues relating to: "Tamil Nadu State Government's Finances" and "Urban Local Body Finances with

Special Reference to Chennai Municipal Corporation".

Dr. **G.S. Ganesh Prasad** is on deputation to ANS –State Institute for Rural Development at Mysore. His area of focus pertains to decentralized governance, Panchayat finances and rural development.

Professor **S. Janakarajan** is primarily engaged in the ongoing research project: Climate Change, Vulnerability Analysis and Adaptation Challenges in the particular context of the Tamil Nadu Coastal Regions. He has published two papers "Vulnerability Analysis in the context of coastal extreme events" and "Understanding Adaptation in the context of climate change threat."

Dr. **D. Jayaraj** works on wellbeing of populations in general and that of women in particular. His work with Professor Subramanian provides an account of wealth distribution in India over a period of 4 decades. His joint work on the wellbeing implications of a change in the sex ratio of population is published in the journal: *Social Choice and Welfare*.

Dr. **Karen Coelho** focuses on privatization of public utilities in the particular context of water in the Chennai metropolitan area. She has been a visiting faculty for 3 months and offered the

Institutional Collaboration

MIDS is also developing formal institutional collaborations with other academic and research institutions both within India and abroad. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between MIDS and the Center for Asian Studies at Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Korea on May 5, 2009. This MOU provides a basis for cooperation between the two institutes for the mutual benefit, especially in the enhancement of research capability and promotion of academic linkages.

course on 'Urban Politics in India' at the Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, Seattle, USA.

Dr. **Kripa AnanthPur**'s research centres on understanding the dynamics of local democracy and governance. Her work focuses on unpacking the various dimensions of local politics that shape local democracy and governance. She is currently engaged in studying this aspect in 200 villages in the 5 districts of northern Karnataka as part of a World Bank study on Deepening Democracy.

Dr. **C. Lakshmanan** continues to engage with film politics of Tamil Nadu and issues of social justice. His focus is towards problems of reservation policy and understanding caste and gender based subordination.

Professor **R. Maria Saleth** continues to work in the areas of water management, institutional economics, agricultural policy and impact assessment of individual and multiple development programs in agricultural and water contexts. He is also working on putting together an edited volume to be published in memory of Prof. Malcolm Adiseshiah.

Dr. **Moana Bhagabati**'s area of focus is on trade and WTO issues. She is currently on deputation as a faculty in the National Institute of Administrative Research (NIAR), Mussoorie.

Professor **K. Nagaraj**'s research focus is on Agrarian distress and farmer's suicide deaths reported widely across different parts of the country. Currently, he is involved in a project on Resurvey of Slater Villages along with Prof. John Harriss as collaborator funded by the Simon Fraser University, Canada.

Professor **Padmini Swaminathan**'s academic work focuses on mapping the

Mr. Sushanta Kumar Mahapatra, Ph.D. candidate has been awarded Ph.D. degree for his thesis entitled "Intricacies of Canal Irrigation Management and Water Governance in India: The Case of Hirakud Command Area, Orissa" supervised by Professor S. Janakarajan.

nature of 'inclusion/exclusion' in economic development. Using national level data and field-based studies, quantum and levels of inclusion/exclusion have been captured through analyzing data relating to literacy and formal levels of education of the population as a whole as well for its different segments.

Apart from continuing his work on his book on backward classes, Professor **P. Radhakrishnan** was active through publications in journals, newspapers, and internet portals. He has continued his publications on current issues such as reservation politics and electoral politics. He completed one major project report on higher education in the context of access, quality, disciplinary diversity, and academic freedom.

Professor **S. Subramanian** has concentrated his work on aspects of deprivation, distributional analysis, and welfare economics, apart from issues in development relating to demography. He has also completed, in collaboration with Dr. D. Jayaraj, a draft of a collection of essays titled "Poverty, Inequality, and Population: Essays in Development and Applied Measurement".

Dr. **K. Sivasubramaniyan** has been engaged in the Parambikulam Aliyar Resurvey Project sponsored by ICSSR and in revising the report for publication as a book. He is also involved in the impact assessment of the Union Ministry of Rural Development funded program: Skill

Programme for Inclusive Growth that train 30,000 rural BPL youths in industrial sewing machine operations.

Dr. **L. Venkatachalam** in his paper "Alternative Institutions in Urban Water Supply Sector: A Critique of Public-Private Partnership mode" provides empirical evidences to categorically demonstrate how improvements in urban water supply services in developing countries through innovative institutional approaches lead to substantial increase in human wellbeing.

Professor **A.R. Venkatachalapathy** has continued with his multidimensional and bilingual exploration into aspects of the social and cultural history of colonial and contemporary Tamilnadu. His pioneering documentation and analysis of the first modern encyclopaedia in any

Indian language, the Tamil *Kalaikalanjiyam* was published as was his essay on the emergence of the genre of autobiography. He has completed a project on the Indo-Danish cultural encounter with specific reference to print under the aegis of the Tranquebar Initiative of the National Museum of Denmark.

Dr. **M. Vijayabaskar** works broadly on the socio-political economy of urban labour markets, urban governance processes, regional industrialisation and development. He has also been involved in the project titled: 'Transforming livelihoods: Work, migration and poverty in the Tiruppur garment cluster', a two year collaborative work with scholars from the University of Sussex and Oxford and funded through a research grant from ESRC/DFID, UK.

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PROJECTS

Dr. Ajit Menon

- *Analyses of discourse on sustainable development in forest policies and of local practices in tree and forest management in Tamil Nadu*, funded by The Centre for National De La Recherche Scientifique, Public Establishment for Scientific and Technological Research, France.

Dr. Karen Coelho and

Dr. M. Vijayabaskar

- *Neighbourhood Associations as Urban Collective Actors: A Comparative Study Of Bangalore and Chennai*, funded by Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, UK.

Dr. Kripa Ananthpur

- *Informal Local Governance Institutions, state and public action in Asia*, funded by IDS, Sussex, U.K.

Dr. S. Janakarajan

- *Adaptation and Livelihood Resilience*, funded by Institute for Social and Environmental Transition – Nepal (ISET-N).

Dr. K. Nagaraj

- *A study of rural social economic change in Tamilnadu*, funded by Simon Fraser University, Vancouver.

Dr. L. Venkatachalam

- *Private Water Markets in Chennai: A Transaction Cost Approach*, funded by Global Development Network, New Delhi.

Dr. M. Vijayabaskar

- *Transforming livelihoods: work, migration and poverty in the Tiruppur garment cluster*, India, Univ. of Sussex.
- *The Politics of SEZs in India*, Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH), New Delhi.