

Comparative Contexts of Discrimination: Social Exclusion and Equal Opportunity Policies in Asia

International Seminar
6-8 May 2009, Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

Programme

6 May, 2009 (Wednesday)

4.30-6.00 pm

Inauguration

Chair: Sukhadeo Thorat, *Chairman, University Grants Commission*

Introduction to the Seminar: Surinder S. Jodhka, *Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies*

Inaugural Address: Somnath Chatterjee, *Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha*

Keynote Address: Ajay Chhibber, *Asst. Secretary General and Regional Director, UNDP Asia and the Pacific*

Vote of Thanks: Sobin George, *Fellow & Programme Coordinator, IIDS*

Tea:

7 May, 2009 (Thursday)

8.30 to 9.30am

Registration

9.30-10.30

Plenary

Chair: Ravi Srivastava, *Professor, Centre for the Study of Regional Development, JNU*

Speaker: Vani K. Barooah, *Professor of Applied Economics, University of Ulster, Northern Ireland*

Discussion

10.30 to 10.45

Tea Break

10.45-1.30

Session I. Presentations from South East Asia & South Asia (15-20 minutes each)

Chair: Ghanshyam Shah, *Former Professor, Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, JNU*

1. Ethnicity, Religion and Culture Based Exclusion and Discrimination in Aotearoa/New Zealand - *Antje Linkenbach, Lecturer in Anthropology, University of Canterbury*
2. The Indigenous Communities of Mindanao: Their Quest for Ancestral Domain and Self-Determination - *Erlinda M. Burton, Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Research Institute for Mindanao Culture, Philippines and Chona Echave, Research Associate, Research Institute for Mindanao Culture*
3. Burakumin in Japan: Study of their Origin, Problems and Solutions - *Nidhi Sadana, Fellow, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies*

1.30-2.15 Lunch

2.15-4.00 Session 1.Continued

Chair: *Patricia Johnston, Professor and Head of School of Indigenous Graduate Studies, Whakatane, New Zealand*

4. Ethnicity, Religion and Culture Based Exclusion and Discrimination in East and South East Asia: A Study of Malaysia - *S. N. Malakar, Professor, Centre for West Asian & African Studies, JNU*
5. Ethnicity, Religion and Culture Based Exclusion and Discrimination in China - *Fengwei Liu, College of Economics and Management, Zhengzhou University of Light Industry, Zhengzhou*
6. Caste-based Discrimination in South Asia : A Study of Bangladesh - *Iftekhhar Uddin Chowdhury, Professor of Sociology, University of Chittagong*

4.00-4.10: Tea Break

4.10-530 Session I. Continued

Chair: *R.S. Deshpande, Professor & Head, ADRT Unit, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore*

7. Caste-based Discrimination in Nepal - *Krishna B. Bhattachan, Professor of Sociology, University of Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu Nepal and Tej B. Sunar, NNDSWO, Nepal*
8. Casteless or Caste-Blind? Changing Patterns of Caste Discrimination in Sri Lanka - *Kalinga Tudor Silva, Professor of Sociology, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka*
9. Long Behind Schedule : A Study on the Plight of Scheduled Caste Hindus in Pakistan - *Zulfiqar Ali Shah, Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research (PILER), Pakistan*

Discussion

8 May, 2009 (Friday)

9.30 to 11.30am Session II. International Experience of Equal Opportunity Policies

Chair: Deirdre Boyd, *Country Head, UNDP India*

1. Theoretical Perspective- Lesson from Theory for Equal Opportunities - *Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairman, University Grants Commission*
2. Diversity, Discrimination or Difference: Case Study Aotearoa/New Zealand - *Patricia Johnston, Professor and Head of School of Indigenous Graduate Studies, Whakatane, New Zealand*
3. Exploring Patterns and Practices of Discrimination: Some Reflections- *Aryma, Lecturer, Delhi University*
4. Equal Opportunity Policy: Analysis of Global Best Practices - *Nidhi Sadana, Fellow, IIDS, New Delhi*

Discussion

12.00-1.30 Session III. Problems of Multiple Groups in India

Chair: Arthur van Diesen, *Senior Social Development Advisor, DFID, India*

5. Labour Market Discrimination: Experiences from Indian Rural and Urban Labour Market- *Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairman, University Grants Commission*
6. Caste Based Discrimination: Socio-Psychological Perspectives - *Rasmita Das Swain, Associate Professor, National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi and Gobind C. Pal, Fellow, IIDS, New Delhi*
7. Dalits in Business - *Surinder S. Jodhka, Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies*

1.30-2.15 Lunch

2.15-5.30 Session III. Continued

Chair: Surinder S. Jodhka, *Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies*

8. Dalits in the Muslim and Christian Communities - *Satish Deshpande, Professor of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics*
9. Social Exclusion and Discrimination of Dalit Christians - *Joseph Marianus Kujur, Head of the Department, Tribal and Dali Unit, Indian Social Institute, New Delhi*

10. Regional Dimensions of Poverty across Socio-Religious Groups- *Amit Thorat, Research Scholar, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, JNU, New Delhi*

4.15-4.30 Tea

5.45-6.45 **Valedictory**

Chair: Martin Macwan, *Chairman, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies*

- 1 Indian State and the Changing Nature of Inclusive Policies - *Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India*
- 2 Civil Society Organisations and Inclusive Policies - *Belinda Bennet, South Asia Representative, Christian Aid* and *Sandeep Chachra, Policy and Partnership Director for Action Aid India*

Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks: *Surinder S. Jodhka, Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies*