

EDITORIAL

The Social Sciences Winter School in Pondicherry is an ambitious collaborative project between the French Institute of Pondicherry and the Pondicherry University. Its aim is to develop a multi-year programme of intensive and multidisciplinary training workshops addressing theoretical and methodological issues in social science research. The first intensive training programme took place at the Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy (School of Social Sciences and International Studies, Pondicherry University) from 7th to 13th of December 2014.

This Winter School is open to Doctoral and Master Students from all fields of social sciences. For its first edition, it attracted 48 participants from all parts of India, and 4 from abroad who were selected on the basis of their qualifications, while taking into account the value of the training with regards to their research or professional projects. For five days, they were trained by an Indo-French team of scholars (9 French, 11 Indians) in social science research methodologies. The theme chosen for the 2014 Edition was: "Health and Societal challenges: Methodological Approaches in Social Sciences." After a full introductory day of plenary sessions, during which five scholars presented a state-of-the-art of the current themes in the field of health studies, four methodological workshops were conducted simultaneously over the next three days, while putting emphasis on innovative research

and surveying techniques. The training was concluded on the fifth day with a stimulating presentation of the students' work, the delivery of certificates and enthusiastic feedback from both the resource persons and trainees.

We would like to thank here all the institutional partners, most specifically the Pondicherry University, the French Institute of Pondicherry, the Centre for South Asian Studies in Paris as well as the Institute of Research for Development in France. These were the main funders of the event, in addition to the financial support from heSam Université. It is also to be mentioned here that this event would have never been possible without the presence of motivated students who came from all over India and made the first edition of this Winter School an undeniable success.

This experiment was an enriching example of how to perpetuate already existing local academic partnerships while extending them to new research institutions from abroad. Our wish is to renew this experience in December 2015. All information pertaining to the organization, conduct and follow-up of the event is accessible on the dedicated website: <http://winterspy.hypotheses.org/>

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Social Sciences Winter School in Pondicherry

FOCUS

CSH

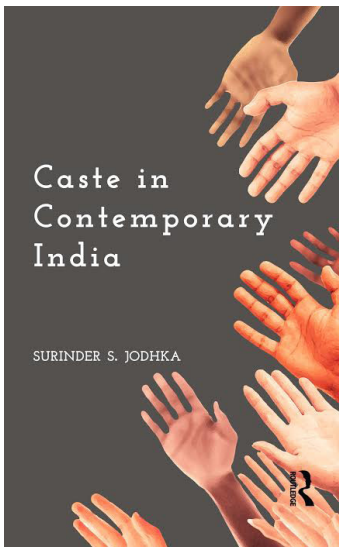
➤ 10th ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

On 18-20 December 2014, the Economics and Planning Unit at the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) organized its 10th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development. CSH is associated to this initiative for many years and for this 10th edition, it co-organized the panel on "Inequality in India", moderated by Dr. Bruno Dorin, Head Economics and Development. Along with Dr. Dorin, Dr. Himanshu, Senior Researcher, and Christophe Jalil Nordman, Associate Researcher, took part at the event. CSH also organized the traditional dinner of the event on December 19th at Aurangzeb Road.

You can visualize the panel clicking on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38zKlFMDJdo>

➤ Book Launch and Discussion on "Caste In Contemporary India"

Prof. Surinder S. Jodhka, *Professor of Sociology at the Jawaharlal Nehru University and CSH Research Associate* presented his latest book,



Caste in Contemporary India, *on 16 December 2014.*

The presentation focused on the significant changes the institution of caste has seen in India and to what extent these non-linear evolutions explain the permanence of caste even in regions that went through deep social and economic changes in rural life. The presentation was followed by a discussion with Prof. Dr. Leïla Choukroune, Prof. Dr. Satish Deshpande, Dr. Jules Naudet and Prof. Gilles Verniers.

EFEO

➤ 3rd NETAMIL WORKSHOP – COMMENTARY IDIOMS

From 2 to 13 February 2015, the Third NETamil Workshop on Commentary idioms will be conducted in the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO.

Commentaries are a pervasive feature encountered in all Indian intellectual traditions. Although the focus of the upcoming workshop will be on the various Tamil traditions NETamil is working on, we all know already that none of them can be regarded in isolation and that they are part of a larger trans-regional undertaking which ranges from Sanskrit to almost any regional and local manifestation of language. Of course there is no way of doing justice to such a variety, but we plan to have glimpses not only of Tamil, Maṇipravāḷam and Sanskrit specimens, but also of some in Telugu and in Malayalam.

What commentators tried to do is extremely variable. The spectrum ranges from simple linguistic and lexical glosses, probably testifying to changing usages over stretches of time, to the most sophisticated treatises in the guise of commentaries, as in the case of Tamil we know in particular from the domain of *ilakkaṇam* (extended grammar). The tool box of commenting and explaining is rich, and we are interested in exploring it via extended guided reading sessions in all the languages

mentioned. We soon come to realise that there is a common basic inventory of exegetical phrases recognisable across linguistics and temporal boundaries as well as similarities in structure such as a pattern of dialogic discourse between teacher and student.

What we want to address in these two weeks are questions like the following ones: How great are the differences in commentarial technique in the various disciplines (literary, grammatical and devotional) that brought forth commentaries? Are they more or less pervasive than the differences between the languages? Are there significant developments discernible over longer periods of time? Does it make sense to speak of commentary genres, such as, in Tamil, anonymous and author commentary? Does something like the individuality of a commentator exist and how does it manifest itself?

The last set of questions is salient in particular in the context of manuscript studies. While printed texts as they are today tend to create the illusion of a unified text, philologists know that this is far from the real picture. How variable are commentaries, authored and anonymous ones, depending on the sources referred to? Does it make sense to think of strata in a commentary text? What are the signs of a closed transmission? Who is "allowed" to make alterations (additions, omissions, etc.)? What is the role played by the editor of a commentary text? Given the many unmarked changes we encounter in editions, in which way is he significantly different in status from a scribe of earlier generations?

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EFEO and IFP

➤ President of India's Certificate of Honour for Sanskrit scholars

Four Sanskrit scholars associated with the French Institute of Pondicherry and

the Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient, Mr. S. SAMBANDA SIVACHARYA (IFP), Dr. Francois GRIMAL (EFEO), Prof. Vempaty KUTUMBA SASTRY (Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan), and Prof. Pierre Sylvain FILLIOZAT (EPHE) have been selected as the 2014 recipients of the Presidential Award of Certificate of Honour for lifetime achievement in Sanskrit language and literature, to be bestowed by the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee at a function to be held in Delhi in the month of January 2015. The distinction is conferred once a year on the Independence Day, in recognition of substantial contribution in the field of Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic and Pali/Prakrit.

Pandit S. Sambandan Sivacharya joined the IFP in 1969. Under the supervision of Pandit. N.R. BHATT, he contributed extensively to the collection and study of Saiva manuscripts on palm leaves preserved at the IFP and registered in the Memory of the World register of the UNESCO. He also actively participated in the preparation of critical editions of the Saivagama-s, and he is currently in charge of the edition project of the Suksmagama. In recognition of his exemplary contribution to the development of research in Indology, notably at the French Institute of Pondicherry, Pandit S. Sambandan received the "Palme Académiques" award from His Excellency Mr. Jérôme Bonnafont, Ambassador of France in India, during a reception that was held on that occasion on January 7, 2009, at the French Consulate in Pondicherry.

Dr François Grimal, a Doctor in Indian Studies at the French School of Asian Studies (EFEO) until his recent retirement, is also a senior and very experienced Sanskrit scholar. He has taught in many reputed universities in France and abroad, including at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi from 1974 to 1977. He was the director of the Pondicherry centre of the EFEO from 1986 to 1999. From 1988 to

2002, he also served as the Head of the Indology Department of the IFP. François Grimal has worked extensively on Sanskrit language and literature and more specifically their Indian analyses: paninian grammar, poetics and commentaries. He initiated many research programmes and recruited several traditional scholars at the IFP.

Prof. Vempati Kutumbasastri was the Vice-Chancellor of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, for the period 2003 to 2008. He is the president of the International Association of Sanskrit Studies. He was a member of the organising committee of the fifteenth World Sanskrit Conference. He is a member of the governing board of the Wider Association of Vedic Studies. He is on the editorial board of the Indologica Taurinensia, the Journal of the International Association of Sanskrit Studies, published from Torino. He is also the Vice chancellor of the Sri Somanath Sanskrit University, Gujarat. Prof. Kutumbasastri is a traditional Sanskrit scholar. His specialization is in Advaita philosophy. He has been appointed as vice chancellor for the past 20 years in many different universities in India. As a well-wisher, he included the IFP in the list of 100 great institutions, for which the *Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan*, New Delhi distributed free Indology publications. He is the main person who contributed to publishing Prof. NSR Tatacharya's four volumes of *Sabdabodhamimamsa*.

Pierre-Sylvain Filliozat is the son of the famous Indologist Dr. Jean Filliozat, first Director of the French Institute of Pondicherry and Director of the EFEO from 1956 to 1977. Very early on in his childhood he became acquainted with Indian studies and especially Sanskrit studies. He obtained his diploma in Hindi from the National School of Oriental studies in 1959, then, in 1962, a diploma from the 'École pratique des hautes études' (EPHE) for his memoir on "The Prātāparudrīya of Vidyānātha" under the guidance of Louis Renou. He was

a member of the EFEO from 1963 to 1967. From 1967 onwards, he became 'directeur d'études' in Sanskrit at the 4th section of the EPHE. Since 1998, he is an associated member of the Centre for the history of Arab and medieval sciences and philosophies and teaches at the University Paris 3 in the doctoral programme "Oriental languages and civilizations". He is vice-president of the Asiatic Society and member of the 'Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres'. His research focuses on two subjects: on the one hand, the knowledge and intellectual working methods of pandits, and on the other hand, the structure of Hindu temples and their correlation with Sanskrit culture.

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IFP

➤ NACLIN 2014

The rapid changes that are taking place in the world of research, combined with the development of digital technologies and resources, are prompting libraries to rethink their role and activities. In order to carry forward the reflection on these questions, as well as on other topics relevant to modern-day librarians, the library of the French Institute of Pondicherry and DELNET-Developing Library Network (www.delnet.nic.in) jointly organized the 17th National Convention on Library, Knowledge and Information Networking or NACLIN 2014 (<http://www.naclin.org>) titled "From Building Collections to Making Connections: Transforming Libraries in the Knowledge Era". The conference was held at Hotel Anandha Inn Convention Centre, Pondicherry from 9th to 11th December 2014 and was inaugurated by Hon'ble Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Former President of India. It was attended by over



250 delegates consisting of library and information professionals and students from different parts of India as well as 15 invited speakers from India, France, USA and Australia.

Hon'ble Dr APJ Abdul Kalam released the publications of NACLIN 2014 comprising of the pre-conference proceedings and a Souvenir. He also opened the trade exhibition in which some leading publishers and online product vendors participated.

The first day was devoted to conducting a tutorial on the topic: "Managing Libraries through Open Source Software Packages". During the next 2 days, 35 papers were presented on a variety of important subjects including Emerging Technology Trends in Libraries; E-Content and the Future Strategies for Libraries; Networking Social, Media and the Libraries; Innovative Library Services; Managing Public Libraries and Reading Habits; Library and Information Science: from Teaching to Technology; Transform Libraries: Be the Change; Human Resource Management in Libraries and User Education. The conference ended with a panel discussion on the central theme of NACLIN 2014, i.e. "From Building Collections to Making

Connections: Transforming Libraries in the Knowledge Era."

NACLIN 2014 was sponsored and supported by several governmental and private organizations including Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Cengage Learning India Pvt Ltd, Balani Infotech/I Group, Kinsey Bros, Taylor and Francis Group and Sabari Group.

The event was widely covered in the press by both the print and electronic media.

For more information, contact:

At the IFP: Ms. Anurupa Naik, Chief Librarian, IFP and Organising Secretary, NACLIN 2014. E-mail: anurupa.n@ifpindia.org

At DELNET: Dr. H.K. Kaul, Director, DELNET E-mail: hkkaul@gmail.com and Dr. Sangeeta Kaul, Network Manager, DELNET, E-mail: sangs@delnet.ren.nic.in

RESEARCH

CSH

➤ French National Research Agency (ANR) Grant

Dr. Eric Daudé, head of the CSH Risks & Territorial Dynamics is part of the team of researchers who has been attributed the grant ANR ACTEUR (Cognitive Territorialized Agents for the Study of Urban dynamics and Risks), on a three years period.

➤ Programme ORVA2D (Organization for Waste Valorisation in Developing Cities)

CSH is part of the international program ORVA2D (Organization for Waste Valorisation in Developing Cities) funded by the French Development Agency (AFD), which will focus on waste management and valorisation in developing cities (2015-2017).

For CSH, Dr. Rémi de Bercegol (PhD in Urban Studies) will be in charge of the fieldwork research in Delhi

EFEQ

➤ Critical edition of Kalittokai

Almost five years have gone by since the last work in our series "Critical Texts of Caṅkam Literature" – the *Kuruntokai* (2010) – was published. This year, after no less than ten years of working on it, Dr. T. Rajeswari is finally bringing out the next set of volumes, the critical edition of the *Kalittokai*. The preparation was complicated by the fact that she had no less than eleven manuscripts (five palm leaf manuscripts and six paper manuscripts) at her disposal, though sadly none of them identifiable with any of the original twelve perused by the first editor of this text, the venerable Ci.Vai. Tāmōtaram Piḷḷai in 1887. Moreover, the *Kalittokai* comes, to our good fortune,

with the voluminous and highly complex commentary of Naccinārkkiniyar. Already the text of poems and commentary alone fill two big volumes. This is why translation and word index will have to follow separately.

Dr. Rajeswari has gone one step beyond the original scope of this series by not only providing a critical edition of the text itself, but by also producing the first critical edition of a classical Tamil commentary in the field of literature. This has proved to be no easy undertaking, firstly because variants in the commentary are numerous and secondly because a prose text provides no easy means of reference as the metrical foot does in a versified text. A special range of footnotes with commentary variants has been introduced to every page.

The volumes are ready to go to press and should be published in the coming months.

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IFP

➤ Representing Self and Family. Tamil Studio Portraiture (1880–1980)



The field of Indian photography is by and large a neglected field of study and the history of South Indian studio photography has yet to be written. It is with this fact in mind that a new project concerning the production and consumption of studio portraiture is being implemented in the Department of Social Sciences of the IFP.

Photography reached India in the 1840s and during the first decades of its introduction, was accessible almost exclusively to the colonial administration and Indian aristocracy. However by the 1880s, commercial photo studios had found their way into the bazaars of the Presidency's medium size towns and family portraits began to appear inside Tamil households. The objective of this project is to document and preserve studios portraiture from the mid-late 19th century up until the introduction of mechanised developing and printing which radically transformed both the production and consumption of family portraiture. This project aims to trace the social history of the diffusion of Tamil studio photography, to investigate the visual rhetoric of portraiture in South India as well as to constitute both a collection and a digital archive of Tamil family photography.

During the first stage of this project, a digital archive of early studio portraiture will be created. To this effect, Zoe Headley and Ramesh Kumar have been awarded a grant from the British Library (Endangered Archives Programme, Arcadia), to conduct a 12 month pilot project on black and white family portraiture. A collection of original prints is also in the process of being constituted at the IFP.

Contact: Dr. Zoe E. Headley (IFP-CNRS)
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➤ Documentation of Endangered Temple Art of Tamil Nadu

This pilot project conducted in collaboration with Arcadia and administered by the British Library, London, aims to digitize exquisite murals in vulnerable condition, in four temples and one rock art site in south India: Madurai Meenakshi temple; Kallalagar Temple, Alagarkovil; Narasingampatti Choultry, Melur, Madurai, Vishnu temple,

Adiyamankottai; and the Jain cave of Tirumalai. A detailed listing templates will be prepared with descriptions for each image. The project will also compile a detailed list of other temples where such murals are available. This will be used as the framework for a future major project. This work will pave the way for future generations to understand historically important temple art and provide opportunities for researchers.

Contact: Dr. N. Murugesan
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➤ Jain sites of Tamil Nadu

The DVD-ROM on Jain sites of Tamil Nadu prepared by the French Institute of Pondicherry is now ready for release. The study of Jain sites of Tamil Nadu focused on the architecture, the iconography, the epigraphy, as well as the rites and celebrations of this community. The DVD-ROM includes a map of all the Jain sites in Tamil Nadu and a large photographic documentation based on the Pondicherry photo archives, and enhanced with new photographs taken by the project team. Sites that were the subject of monographs were selected according to their historical importance.

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EVENTS

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS/ROUND TABLES
/LECTURES

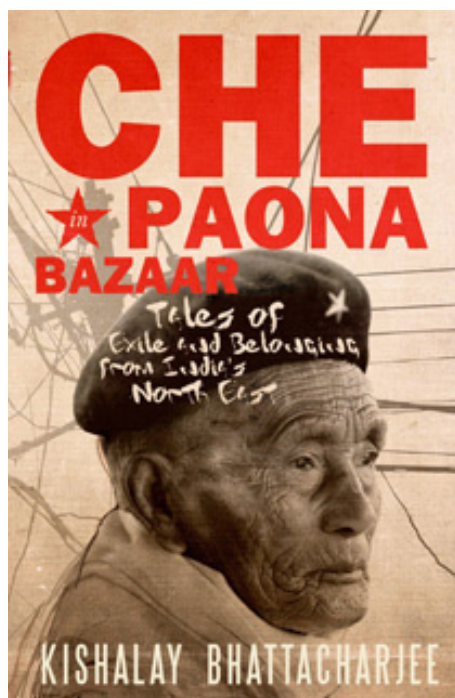
CSH

For more details on these events, please consult our website, at the following address:

<http://csh-delhi.com/news-and-events>

CSH Lecture Series

On 9 September 2014, **Kishalay Bhattacharjee** examined the various



approaches and methodologies used in “**Covering Conflict and the Danger of a Single Story**”.

The Lecture was directly related to the release of his latest book, *Che in Paona Bazaar*, based on his long-lasting experience as a senior journalist and former *New Delhi Television (NDTV)* Resident Editor, covering conflict in India's North-East as well as in the Maoist corridor for seventeen years.

Dr. Damien Krichewsky, Postdoctoral Fellow at the Forum Internationale Wissenschaft (FIW), University of Bonn (Germany) and CSH Associate Researcher, gave a lecture on 23 September 2014 on “**Corporate Social Responsibility in India**”. His analysis focused on how CSR enables companies to absorb discontent by translating socio-political uncertainties into manageable parameters of economic risks.

On 12 November 2014, **Prof. Dr. Loraine Kennedy**, CNRS research director at the Centre for South Asian Studies and CSH Associate, gave a lecture on “**State Spatial Rescaling in India: Subnational States and the Politics of Economic Restructuring**”. Directly related

to her latest book, “*The Politics of Economic Restructuring in India*”, where she analyses the implementation of the SEZ policy in Haryana, among other case studies, the lecture focused on the political processes that are producing new economic spaces in India.

Prof. Surinder S. Jodhka, Professor of Sociology at the Jawaharlal Nehru University and CSH Research Associate presented his latest book, “**Caste in Contemporary India**”, on 16 December 2014. The presentation focused on the significant changes the institution of caste has seen in India and to what extent these non-linear evolutions explain the permanence of caste even in regions that went through deep social and economic changes in rural life. The presentation was followed by a discussion with Prof. Dr. Leïla Choukroune, Prof. Dr. Satish Deshpande, Dr. Jules Naudet and Prof. Gilles Verniers.

➤ International Conferences

Daudé Eric, City-Level Agent-based Traffic simulation in Risk Context, Social Modeling and Simulation + Econophysics Colloquium, 4-6 oct. 2014, coll. P. Tranouez, G. Czura, P. Taillandier (Université de Rouen), Kobe, Japan.

Desquilbet Marion, **Dorin Bruno**, Couvet Denis, 2014. «Land sharing vs. land sparing for biodiversity: how agricultural markets make the difference», 14th Congress, European Association of Agricultural Economists, Ljubljana, 26-29 August, (http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/182809/2/Desquilbet-Land_sharing_vs_land_sparing_for_biodiversity-143_a.pdf)

Brunelle Thierry, Dumas Patrice, Souty François, **Dorin Bruno**, Nadaud Franck, 2014. “Evaluating the impact of rising fertilizer prices on crop yields”, 4th Sustainable Phosphorus Summit, Montpellier, 1-3

September, (<http://sps2014.cirad.fr/>)

Naudet, Jules, « L'idée d'égalité en Inde: représentations et expériences des frontières sociales », colloque « *La démocratie en travail: Pierre Rosanvallon* », Centre Culturel International de Cerisy, 13-20 Septembre 2014.

Naudet, Jules, «La pauvreté vue des beaux-quartiers : une comparaison Paris, Delhi, São Paulo» (avec Serge Paugam, Bruno Cousin et Camila Giorgetti), Séminaire « *Cities are back in town* », SciencesPo, 23 Septembre 2014.

Himanshu, “Some Issues of Urban Food Security in India”, at “Emerging Challenges in an Urbanizing India: Governance, Security, Climate Change”, organised by Observer Research Foundation and Peace Research Institute, Oslo, 19-20th November 2014

De Bercegol, Rémi, “Croissance urbaine et accès aux services essentiels : le cas de Dehli “Colloque *Villes Sobres? Réseaux Techniques et transition*, Science Po, Paris, 3 Juillet 2014

http://www.uclg.org/sites/default/files/programme_conference_les_2_et_3_juillet_2014_ville_sobre_1.pdf

De Bercegol, Rémi, “Geographies of networked services co-production, cases study from India” Royal Geographic Society Annual International Conference, London 29 Août 2014

http://www.rgs.org/NR/rdonlyres/26CC0F19-23E0-43A3-B68D-9B74D5D5E368/0/AC2014_ProgBook_FINAL_Lowres.pdf

➤ National Conferences

Choukroune, Leïla, “States Autonomy to Regulate; International Trade and Investment Law Beyond Flexibilities”, *Centre for Policy Rights (CPR)*, New Delhi, 18 September 2014.

Choukroune, Leïla, “The Paradox of Justiciability, Labour Rights Litigation and Realization in China and India”, *EU Delegation in India, Political Committee*, New Delhi, 7 October 2014.

Choukroune, Leïla, “States ‘Autonomy to Regulate’ and the Emerging World – Some Thoughts on Recent WTO Disputes”, *India Law Institute*, New Delhi, 9 October 2014.

Choukroune, Leïla, “Governing Governance, Potential and Limits of the Rule of Law – China – India Perspectives” in *Development, Governance and Law in China and India, Conference organised by Jindal University*, New Delhi, 14 November 2014.

Choukroune, Leïla, “International Economic Law and Health, Current Challenges for the Emerging World”, *India Law Institute*, New Delhi, 10 December 2014.

Dorin Bruno, 2014. “The Lewisian Pattern of Modern Growth & Convergence: Towards a World Without Farmers (1960-2050)?”, IEG Seminar, Delhi, 7 November

Naudet, Jules, “‘All of us have closed ourselves into a cocoon’: Self-Segregation and Representations of Poverty in Delhi Upper-Class Neighbourhoods”, Sociology Seminar Series, Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi, 29th October 2014.

Naudet, Jules, “Minority Cultures of Mobility” across Three National Case Studies: France, India, and the United States”, Public Lecture, JSIA Centre for European Studies, Jindal University, O.P. Jindal Global University, 16th October 2014.

Himanshu, “Non-farm Employment in India: Some Issues”, Presentation at the IEG-World Bank Workshop on “Contribution of Non-Farm Activities to Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Rural Areas”, Nov 13th 2014, World Bank, New Delhi

Himanshu, “Dimensions of Non-Farm employment in India”, at “Studying The Rural”, Third Workshop of the Network of Rural and Agrarian Studies (NRAS) Hosted by the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal, October 29 – November 1, 2014

Seminars & Workshops

➤ CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series

CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, *Entrepreneurial urbanization’ in Dholera smart city, Gujarat*, by Ayona Datta, 22 July 2014.

CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, *Highway Urbanization and Public-Private Cities: Evidence from Highways in the Pune Region*, by Prof. Sai Balakrishnan, 26 August 2014.

CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, *The Durable Slum: Residential Insecurity and the ‘Right to Stay Put’ in Urban India*, by Liza Weinstein, 30 September 2014.

CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, *Improvement, Redevelopment and Resettlement: Governance of Poverty Alleviation Policies and Contemporary Kolkata*, by Sarani Khatua, 28 October 2014.

CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, *Kaminey: On Scoundrels, Urban Politics and Toilets in Mumbai*, by Prasad Khanolkar, 25 November 2014.

CSH-CPR Urban Workshop Series, *Mumbai Model: Slum Generated City*, by Vyjayanthi Rao, 30 December 2014.

➤ CSH Research Seminar Series

Corentin Lucas, Hugo Lehoux, PhD Candidates, “Agrarian dynamics and socio-economic inequalities in Gujarat First results of a 4-months field work in two talukas” 5 September 2014 [http://www.csh-delhi.com/eventdetail/35/agrarian-dynamics-and-socio-economic-inequalities-in-](http://www.csh-delhi.com/eventdetail/35/agrarian-dynamics-and-socio-economic-inequalities-in-gujarat-first-results-of-a-4-months-field-work-in-two-talukas)

[gujarat-first-results-of-a-4-months-field-work-in-two-talukas](http://www.csh-delhi.com/eventdetail/35/agrarian-dynamics-and-socio-economic-inequalities-in-gujarat-first-results-of-a-4-months-field-work-in-two-talukas)

Jean-Thomas Martelli, PhD Candidate, “The Lobbyist and the Revolutionary: Initiatory Politics in an Indian Campus”, 8/09/2014 <http://www.csh-delhi.com/eventdetail/33/phd-seminar-the-lobbyist-and-the-revolutionary-initiatory-politics-in-an-indian-campus>

Estelle Fourat, PhD Candidate, “Consumption of Animal Products in Delhi : a socio-anthropological perspective”, 12/11/2014 <http://www.csh-delhi.com/eventdetail/40/consumption-of-animal-products-in-delhi-a-socio-anthropological-perspective>

Marine Al Dahdah, PhD Candidate, “mHealth in the global south : the use of mobile phones in health projects”, 20/11/2014 <http://www.csh-delhi.com/eventdetail/43/mhealth-in-the-global-south-the-use-of-mobile-phones-in-health-projects-by-marine-al-dahdah>

Eric Daudé, Somsakun Maneerat, Alexandre Cebeillac and Renaud Misselin, Risks & Territorial Dynamics Team, “Dengue as a complex system: case studies in Delhi, Bangkok and “artificial cities”, 11/12/2014 <http://www.csh-delhi.com/eventdetail/45/dengue-as-a-complex-system-case-studies-in-delhi-bangkok-and-artificial-cities>

Eco-CSH workshop

Dr. Sarthak Gaurav, “Are Rainfed Agricultural Households Insured? Evidence from Five Villages in Vidarbha, India”, 10/10/2014

Japneet Kaur, “The contractual arrangements of tenancy in Palanpur”, 18/10/2014.

Imdadul Haider, “Farm Size Efficiency and Productivity: A Fresh Look at an Old Issue”, 16/12/2014.

EFE0

For more details on these events, please consult our website, at the following address: <http://www.efeo.fr/blogs.php?bid=14&nc=conferences&l=EN>

... at the EFE0

The 12th *Classical Tamil Summer Seminar* (CTSS), organized by Eva Wilden, took place at the Pondicherry Centre from 4 to 29 August 2014. Each day was divided into three parts, devoted to three areas of Tamil literature. During the first week, the *Neṭunalvāṭai*, one of the *Pattuppāṭṭu*, was read, followed by two weeks of *Pāṇṭikkōvai*, and finally one week of the Jain epic *Nīlakēci*. This year there was an advanced and a beginner's level. Two music concerts, a Carnatic violin concert by Smt Neyvelli Lalitha and a vocal music concert of Tamil devotional songs (*Tevaram* – *Tiruvakam* – *Tiruppukal*) by Thiru Pazhani Shanmugasundaram, Thiru Karur Swaminathan were organised on 8th and 22nd August respectively. Excursions to Pichavaram, Senji and Kanchipuram were also organised during the weekends.

Suganya ANANDAKICHENIN, Doctoral student at the University of Hamburg, gave a lecture on “Kulacēkara Ālvār: The King who Would Be a Step” on 7th August 2014 within the framework of the 12th Classical Tamil Summer Seminar.

Andrey KLEBANOV, Doctoral student of the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, University of Hamburg, gave a lecture on “The commentaries on *kāvya*: texts composed while copying. A critical study of the manuscripts of selected commentaries on the *Kirātārjunīya*, an epic poem in Sanskrit” on 14th August 2014 within the framework of the 12th Classical Tamil Summer Seminar.

Emma STEIN, Doctoral student of History of Art at Yale University,

gave a lecture on “All Streets Lead to Temples: Mapping Monumental Histories in Kanchipuram, ca. 8th – 12th centuries AD” on 19th August 2014 within the framework of the 12th Classical Tamil Summer Seminar.

Hephzibah ISRAEL, Lecturer in Translation Studies, University of Edinburgh, gave a lecture on “Competing Genres of the Sacred in Colonial South India: ‘Poetic Fictions’, Protestant ‘truth’ and the Politics of Translation” on 21st August 2014 within the framework of the 12th Classical Tamil Summer Seminar.

Dr. A. KAMATCHI, CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University, gave a lecture on “The Corpus on *Ainkuṇṇūru*” on 26th August 2014 within the framework of the 12th Classical Tamil Summer Seminar.

Victor DAVELLA, Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, University of Hamburg (Project NETamil), gave a lecture on “Theories of Case in Sanskrit and Tamil Grammars” on 30th August 2014 within the framework of the 12th Classical Tamil Summer Seminar.

The first of a series of Sanskrit reading sessions with the Department of Sanskrit of the Pondicherry University took place on the 25th of November at the EFE0 Centre. The session was lead by Prof. C.S. Radhakrishnan, Head of the Department, and ten students from History, Tamil and Sanskrit Departments of the Pondicherry University, as well as EFE0 and NETamil scholars, joined the reading session. The text chosen was the Kūram copper plates of the Pallava dynasty.

International Events

S.L.P. ANJANEYA SARMA was invited to visit the Department of Indian and Tibetan Studies, University of Hamburg, from 12 to 28 September 2014, to teach an intensive course on Sanskrit Grammar and Poetics.

G. VIJAYAVENUGOPAL, T. RAJESWARI, S.L.P. ANJANEYA SARMA, R. SATHYANARAYANAN, T. RAJARETHINAM and **M. PRABHAKARAN** went to Hamburg to participate in the second workshop of the project NETamil (“Going from Hand to Hand: Networks of Intellectual Exchange in the Tamil Learned Traditions”) financed by an ERC Advanced Grant (No 339470) from 29th September to 3rd October 2014.

National Events

S.A.S SARMA went to Kalady, Kerala, on 3rd July 2014, to give a memorial lecture on Panditar E.V. Raman Namboothiri, a scholar of versatility, at the Kalady Centre for Sanskrit and Vedic Studies, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit.

S.A.S. SARMA went to Thrissur, Kerala, to participate in the National Seminar on Oral and Textual Traditions of Veda with Special Reference to South India (Under the Vedic Heritage Portal: A Project Sponsored by Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India) from 14 to 16 November 2014 organised by the Kadavallur Anyonyaparisath Organisation, where he presented a paper entitled “Oral and Textual Traditions of Veda – Tamil Nadu Region”.

R. SATHYANARAYANAN was invited as a resource person to give classes on the reading of manuscripts at the Workshop on Indological Research Traditions and Innovations at the Centre of Vedānta Studies, University of Kerala, Trivandrum, from 24th to 28th June 2014. He also delivered a lecture on *Editing and Edition of Sanskrit Manuscripts*.

R. SATHYANARAYANAN was invited to present a paper entitled “Ānandaraṅga pillai as described in the Ānandaraṅga Campū” at the one day symposium on Ānandaraṅga Pillai on 31st July 2014 organised by the Sahitya Akademi (National Academy of Letters), Chennai, at the Pondicherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture (PILC).

S.L.P. ANJANEYA SARMA participated in the Sri Jayendrasarasvatisrichrananam ashititamajayantyutsavamahasabha organised by the Sri Chandrashekharendra Sarasvatisvavidyalaya & Kanchi-shankaramatham in Kanchipuram from 11 to 14 August 2014, where he gave a lecture on «Sampradanakarakavicharah».

S.L.P. ANJANEYA SARMA gave a lecture on « Prtyayagrahanaparihashapanchakam (Paribhasha.23-27) » at the Śrīmahāganapativākyārthavidvanmahāśabhā organised by the Sri sringeri saradaapitham in Karnataka from 2 to 4 September 2014.

S.L.P. ANJANEYA SARMA gave a lecture on “Explanation of *Svaadumi Namul (P.su3-4-26)*” during the third international workshop of the ANR project PP1617 “Panini and the Paninians of the 16th-17th centuries”, held at the IFP from 14 to 16 October 2014.

S.L.P. ANJANEYA SARMA was invited to be an examiner in the Karnataka State Level competition on Sastras on 29 and 30 December 2014.

EFEO and IFP

The third international workshop of the ANR project PP1617 “Panini and the Paninians of the 16th-17th centuries”, was held at the IFP from 14 to 16 October 2014.

Contact: François Grimal
francois.grimal@gmail.com

IFP

For more details on these events, please consult our website, at the following address: <http://www.ifpindia.org/content/seminar>

International Seminars

2nd Workshop on “Indian Literature as Comparative Literature: Regional

Modernisms and the Idea of Indian Literature” jointly organized by the Department of Indology of the IFP and the Rutgers University, USA, and held at the IFP on 18-19 December, 2014: <http://www.ifpindia.org/content/indian-literature-comparative-literature-regional-modernisms-and-idea-indian-literature>

Contact: M. Kannan
kannan.m@ifpindia.org

Social Sciences Winter School in Pondicherry held at the Pondicherry University on 7-13 December 2014: <http://www.ifpindia.org/content/social-sciences-winter-school-pondicherry>

Contact: Remy Delage
remy.delage@ifpindia.org

Workshop on “Islamic Law and Property Distribution in India”, held at the IFP on November 14, 2014: <http://www.ifpindia.org/content/workshop-islamic-law-and-property-distribution-india>

Contact: Audrey Richard
audrey.richard@ifpindia.org

INQUA-HaBCom workshop on ‘Palaeoanthropological Perspectives on Plant Communities in South Asia’, held at the IFP on October 27-November 2, 2014: <http://www.ifpindia.org/content/inqua-habcom-workshop-palaeoanthropological-perspectives-plant-communities-south-asia>

Detailed report of the INQUA-HABCOM training workshop published in Quaternary Perspectives issue 21(2): <http://119.18.62.212/ifpsitedata/pdf/QP%2021-2-1%206.pdf>

Contact: K. Anupama
anupama.k@ifpindia.org

National Seminars

17th National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information

Networking - NACLIN 2014 held in Pondicherry on 9-11 December, 2014: <http://www.ifpindia.org/content/17th-national-convention-knowledge-library-and-information-networking-naclin-2014-0>

Contact: Anurupa Naik
anurupa.n@ifpindia.org

Lectures held at the IFP

Lecture on ‘**Information Technology (IT), cities and society in South India**’ by Dr. Aurélie Varrel, IFP, on 26 November 2014.

Lecture on ‘**Climate Change and Sustainable Development**’ by Prof. Swami Buddhanand, Director, UN Policy-Making & Management Institute, on 13 October 2014.

Lecture on ‘**Using geospatial methods for integrated Human-Environmental research at IFP**’ by Dr. Mohan Seetharam, IFP, on 22 September 2014.

Lecture on ‘**Diversity of debt bondage in rural households in Tamil Nadu and the evolution of this phenomenon between 2004 and 2014**’ by Bryan Hocq and Margaux Teulière, students at Bordeaux University, Bordeaux, France, on 18 September 2014.

Lecture on ‘**An approach to Wayanad Forest dynamics. The axis between tribal development and conservation**’ by José Egas, MSc student at SUTROFOR-GEEFT-AgroParisTech, on 8 September 2014.

Lecture on ‘**Development of Rooftop water harvesting in Auroville from a social sciences viewpoint**’ by Serge Warde, MSc student at Supagro, France, on 28 August 2014.

Lecture on ‘**We treat only quiet psychotics: The encounter of**

psychiatry and religion – the case of Gunaseelam temple (South India)’ by Dr. Brigitte Sébastia, IFP-CEIAS, and Dr. Marie-Caroline Saglio-Yatzimirsky, INALCO-CEIAS, on 22 August 2014.

Lecture on ‘**Quantitative Pollen Morphology using a light microscope: a tool to identify plant species in South India**’ by Ronan Delancet, Master 1 student in Environment and Water Sciences at the University François Rabelais, Tours, France, on August 12, 2014.

Lecture on ‘**An Introduction on Sanskrit compounds**’ by M. Vinoth, PhD candidate at the Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya (SCSVMV) University, Kanchipuram, on 25 July 2014.

Lecture on ‘**The Mariyamman cult in Puducherry, South India: an anthropological perspective on the social heterogeneity of Hinduism in urban context**’ by Dr. Javier González Díez, University of Turin (Italy), on 17 July 2014.

Lecture on ‘**Presentation of works conducted at INRA and CFTRI on combination of categories of plant food for preventing micronutrients deficiencies**’ by Dr. Edmond Rock, INRA, and Dr. P. Prabhasankar, CFTRI, on 11 July 2014.

Lecture on ‘**Environmental efficiency and social justice: the social effects of public action in question**’ by Dr. Aurélie Roussary, University of La Réunion, on 10 July 2014.

Lecture on ‘**The plural forms of organic farming in Karur region**’ by Laura Goffo, student, University Lyon 3, France, on 7 July 2014.

Conference/seminar/workshop papers (published and unpublished)

International Conferences

Indology

LAKSHMINARASIMHAM S., 2014. *Arhe kṛtyatṛcaśca sūtravicārah*, Paper presented at the International Workshop on “Panini and the Paninians of the 16th -17th centuries” held at the French Institute of Pondicherry from 14th-16th October 2014 (ANR - PP -16-17).

Ecology

ANUPAMA K., PREMATHILAKE .R., PRASAD S., ORUKAIMANI G., PAPPU S. and KUMAR A., 2014. *Archeobotanical studies at Attirampakkam*, Paper presented at the INQUA-HaBCom (International Union for Quaternary Research – Humans and the Biosphere Commission) workshop-cum-training programme entitled ‘Palaeoanthropological Perspectives on Plant Communities in South Asia’, jointly organized by the Sharma Centre for Heritage Education and the French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP), at the IFP from 27th October to 2nd November, 2014.

PREMATHILAKE T.R., PRASAD S., ORUKAIMANI G., REGHU N., LAZAR J. and ANUPAMA K., 2014. *Hands-on training cum demonstrations of field and laboratory procedures for phytolith extractions from archeological and plant materials* Paper presented at the INQUA-HaBCom (International Union for Quaternary Research – Humans and the Biosphere Commission) workshop-cum-training programme entitled ‘Palaeoanthropological Perspectives on Plant Communities in South Asia’, jointly organized by the Sharma Centre for Heritage Education and the French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP) at the IFP from 27th October to 2nd November, 2014.

National Conferences

Indology

RAMESH KUMAR K., 2014. *Digitization of Manuscripts*, Paper presented at the workshop on “Introduction and Study of Manuscriptology” organized by Veda Agama Samskrutha Maha Patashala, Sri Sri Gurukul, at Art of Living International Centre, Bengaluru on 13th Dec, 2014.

Ecology

NAVYA R., AHMED H., RONAN D., PRASAD S. and ANUPAMA K., 2014. *Quantitative criteria for distinguishing pollen of some grass species in South India: an approach using light microscopy and multinomial regression*, Paper presented at the National Conference on “Quaternary Climate Change: New Approaches and Emerging Challenges” organized by the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow from December 15th to 16th, 2014.

LIAG

BALASUBRAMANIAN D., GRARD P., LE BOURGEOIS T. and RAMESH B.R., 2014. *A biodiversity platform for weed identification and knowledge system in the Western Indian Ocean*, Paper presented at the Taxonomic Data Working Group 2014, held in Jönköping, Sweden from October 27-31, 2014.

Library

SARAVANAN G. and RAJAN V.R., 2014. *Mapping of Authorship and Collaboration Pattern in Global Change Biology literature through VOSviewer: a bibliometric study*, In: Mandhirasalam M. et al. (eds), Proceedings of the National Conference on “Reaching the Unreached : Connecting the Library Users and Resources through Innovative Services and Technologies”,

organized by the Coimbatore Institute of Technology & SALIS from 8th to 9th August, 2014, p. 394-398, ISBN: 978-81-903838-9-9.

SARAVANAN G. and **BASU A.**, 2014. *Authorship and Collaboration Pattern in Ecological Applications: A Scientometric Study*, In: Sangam S.L. and Biradar B.S. (eds), Third National Conference on Scientometrics, Big Data Analytics (BDA) and Libraries May 31, 2014 [CD-ROM], organized by Kuvempu University in association with the Institute of Scientometrics, Shankaraghatta, p. 225-233, ISBN: 978-81-923260-2-3.

RAVICHANDRAN P. and **NARENTHIRAN R.**, 2014. *Problems and perspectives of cataloguing multilingual multiscrypt collection in libraries : a study*, In: Mandhirasalam M. et al. (eds), Proceedings of the National Conference on "Reaching the Unreached : Connecting the Library Users and Resources through Innovative Services and Technologies", organized by the Coimbatore Institute of Technology & SALIS from 8th to 9th August, 2014, p. 394-398, ISBN: 978-81-903838-9-9, p. 424-426, ISBN: 978-81-903838-9-9.

SARAVANAN G. and **RAJAN V.R.**, 2014. *Bibliometric Analysis in selected ecology journals during 2003-2012: a study*, Paper presented at the "6th Annual Research Congress (KUARC-2014)" organized by Karpagam University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, 05th - 06th December, 2014.

WELCOME

...at the CSH

Prof. Dr. Surinder S. JODHKA is Professor of Sociology at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He researches on different dimensions of social inequalities – old and new – and the processes of their reproduction. He is among the

first recipients of the ICSSR-Amartya Sen Award for Distinguished Social Scientists, for the year 2012. Surinder S. Jodhka joined CSH as an affiliate Senior Fellow in November 2014.

Prof. dr. Odile HENRY holds a doctorate in sociology from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris). She is professor at the Paris 8 University after having taught as assistant professor at Dauphine University (Paris). She is a researcher within the framework of the ENGIND, an ANR research programme (2014-2017) on Engineers and Society in Colonial and Post Colonial India. She joined CSH in October 2014.

Dr. Parul BHANDARI joined CSH in December 2014 as a Post-Doctoral Fellow, working on the elites of India along with Dr. Jules Naudet. She completed both her PhD and MPhil in Sociology from the University of Cambridge, MA in Sociology from Delhi School of Economics, and BA (Hons) Sociology from Delhi University. Parul Bhandari is also a Guest Lecturer (January 2015- May 2015) at the Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.

Dr. Sarthak GAURAV joined CSH in September 2014 as a Research Associate, working on the Palanpur Study along with Dr. Himanshu. Prior to joining CSH, he was a Post-doctoral Researcher at the Asia Research Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) from March 2013. He completed his PhD in Economics from IGIDR, Mumbai and was a visiting Doctoral Scholar at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania in 2011. His PhD Thesis is on 'Risk and Vulnerability of Agricultural Households in India'. He did his M.Sc in Economics from IGIDR, Mumbai in 2007.

Priyanka PANDE has completed her Masters in Economics from Centre for Economic Studies and Planning,

Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi and did her graduation from Hans Raj College, Delhi University. She joined CSH in September 2014 as a research assistant for the Palanpur project.

Bhavna JOSHI joined CSH in July 2014 as research assistant in the Palanpur research project. Prior to this she has completed Masters in Economics from Delhi School of Economics.

Aditi BANERJEE joined CSH in July 2014 as research assistant in the Palanpur project. She has completed my MSc in Economics and finance from the University of Edinburgh (2013) and Bachelors in Economics from Delhi University (2012).

Amit SHARMA, graduate in Computer Science and Engineering, joined CSH in June 2014 as the new IT and Administrative Assistant of the Centre.

...at the EFEO

B. THILAKASIVASUNDARAN joined the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO as an informatician within the framework of the NETamil Project - *Going from Hand to Hand – Networks of Intellectual Exchange in the Tamil Learned Traditions* directed by Eva Wilden and awarded the ERC Advance Grant financed by the European Research Council. He will be in charge of organising the filing system on the NETamil server (in the initial stage) and then working towards preparing a database (which will be accessible to NETamil members at a later stage).

Dr. Hugo DAVID and **Dr. Vincenzo VERGIANI** (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom) stayed at the Pondicherry Centre between the 1st July and the 5th August 2014. Together with S.L.P. Anjaneya Sarma, they worked on their English translation and study of the auto-commentary (*svavṛtti*) on the second kāṇḍa (*Vākyakāṇḍa*, "The Section on the Sentence") of

Bhartrhari's *Vākyapadīya*, as well as on related research projects dealing with Sanskrit grammar and classical Vedic exegesis (*Mīmāṃsā*).

Victor RAYMOND (Master's student in History and Religious Studies in the University of Strasbourg) received a scholarship from the EFEO to spend two months (July and August 2014) at the Pondicherry Centre to continue with his research on the critical re-elaboration of the work of Mircea Eliade, a Romanian religious historian. Memoirs which will focus on the vision of religious India issued and conveyed by the scholar.

Dr. Charlotte SCHMID, Director of Studies at the EFEO, arrived at the Centre in August 2015 to take part at the EFEO Centre in the 11th session of the Classical Tamil Summer School directed by her colleague, Eva Wilden, but also to visit various sites (mostly grouped in the southern part of the Kaveri delta) concerning which she, Valérie Gillet, and Emmanuel Francis (CNRS) are organising a workshop in 2015 (3rd workshop in the series "The Archaeology of Bhakti").

Ben WILLIAMS (Harvard University) has been awarded a Fulbright scholarship to pursue his doctoral research on the uses of benedictory verses (*maṅgala*) in the corpus of Abhinavagupta, a medieval Kashmiri polymath. He will conduct this research at the Pondicherry EFEO Centre for a period of nine months from August 2014.

Suganya ANANDAKICHENIN, who holds a postgraduate degree in English Literature and who is also a "professeur agrégé" in English, is now doing Tamil studies and finishing her PhD on Kulacēkara Ālvār and his *Perumāḷ Tirumoli* at Hamburg University in Germany. She joined the École française d'Extrême-Orient in Pondicherry, India, on September 1, 2014, in order to work on Eva Wilden's NeTamil project for two-and-

a-half years, for which, focusing on the Vaiṣṇava manuscripts that belong to the EFEO collection and studying the ways through which they were transmitted, she is working towards creating a critical edition of the early *antātis* composed by the Ālvārs and producing a philological translation of parts of the *Nāḷāyira Tivviya Pirapantam*, like Tirumālīcai Ālvār's work(s).

Nicolas MOREL, doctoral student at the University of Aix-Marseille and scholar of the EFEO, stayed at the Pondicherry Centre from 28 October to 24 December 2014 to pursue his research on the Evolution of Military Architecture in the Deccan Forts of Firuzabad, Naldurg and Bellary.

Dr. Indra MANUEL joined the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO on 10th November 2014 as a Researcher within the framework of the NETamil Project - *Going from Hand to Hand – Networks of Intellectual Exchange in the Tamil Learned Traditions* directed by Eva Wilden and awarded the ERC Advance Grant (No 339470) financed by the European Research Council. She will be working on the collation of the *Tolkāppiyam Meyppāṭṭiyal* with the commentaries of Ḹampūraṇar and Pēṛācīriyar, towards the establishment of a critical edition.

Rachel GUIDONI and **Maïte HUREL** came to the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO from 1 to 8 December 2014 to follow-up the different projects of the Centre's Library. They then participate in the 17th National Convention on Library, Knowledge and Information Networking or NACLIN 2014 from 9 to 11 December in Pondicherry. Rachel Guidoni was invited to present a paper entitled "A brief presentation of the main South Asia collections in French libraries".

...at the IFP

Dr. Nicolas PRÉVOT, Senior lecturer in Anthropology at the

Research Centre for Ethnomusicology, Laboratory of Ethnology and Comparative Sociology (CREM-LESC / UMR 7186 CNRS) of the University Paris Ouest Nanterre, France, joined the Social Sciences Department of the IFP from 15 December 2014 to 20 July 2015, to work on his research subject "Music and Possession Trance in Middle India".

Dr. A. BHAGATH SINGH, PhD in Anthropology, joined the Social Sciences Department on December 2, 2014, as a project collaborator, to work on the constitution of a digital archive in the framework of the EAP 689 project on 'Tamil Agrarian History' headed by Dr. Zoe HEADLEY.

Dr. François MUNOZ took up his post as the new Head of the Ecology Department of the IFP, on December 8, 2014. Mr. MUNOZ is an associate professor of the University of Montpellier 2. He investigates the ecological processes driving species coexistence from the local community to the regional biogeographical context. Using both theoretical and experimental approaches, he characterizes the signature of these processes in the taxonomic, functional and phylogenetic composition of communities and regional species pools. This research requires joining ecological, biogeographical and evolutionary theories. A central aspect is the analysis of spatial structure in metapopulations and metacommunities, with emphasis on the effect of dispersal limitation and extinction dynamics. This research is mainly applied to the context of plant communities, in wet evergreen tropical forests (India, Cameroon, New Caledonia), and in Mediterranean and temperate vegetation (scrublands and grasslands). He was previously working at the AMAP laboratory in Montpellier, France.

Dr. Maxime RÉJOU-MÉCHAIN took up his post as the new Head of the Laboratory of Applied Informatics

and Geomatics (LIAG) on November 7, 2014. He has a background in forest ecology and in remote sensing. In the LIAG, Maxime Réjou-Méchain will conduct studies aiming at measuring and monitoring forest carbon stocks and forest structure from remote sensing approaches in India. One of his major aim is to produce broad-scale forest carbon maps and to identify the ecological factors driving the spatial and temporal variations in forest structure. He was previously working as a postdoctoral associate in the AMAP laboratory in Montpellier, France.

Dr. Aurélie VARREL, researcher in Geography, has been deputed by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Social Sciences Department of the IFP for a period of at least 2 years starting from September 2014. Aurélie Varrel has a background in social geography (urban studies, migration studies). She was previously working at the Centre d'Études de l'Inde et de l'Asie du Sud (CEIAS) as a CNRS researcher. Her research theme focuses on the impact of the information technology boom in South Indian metros (Bangalore and Chennai especially). She will be succeeding Guy Attewell who, for his part, will still be associated to the IFP, and will be pursuing his work on medical humanities in collaboration with the institute.

Yeruva Karthik REDDY joined the Laboratory of Applied Informatics and Geomatics (LIAG) from July 21 2014 to October 16, 2016, to work on software development in the framework of the WIKWIO project.

GOODBYE

... at the CSH

Dr. Tarangini SRIRAMAN left CSH in December 2014 after two years as a Post-Doctoral Fellow, and becomes

an associate fellow at CSH. Her work focuses on the historical relationship between identification documents, law, citizenship, marginality and welfare processes in India, and in particular, the urban spaces of Delhi.

Somsakun MANEERAT left CSH in December 2014 after two years as PhD candidate working on multi-agent modeling and simulation of vector-borne diseases in urban areas. Particularly interested in the study of the relationship between dengue vector dynamics and heterogeneous urban environments including aspects of climate, socio-economic practices and urbanization, she has been part of the Risks & Territorial Dynamics Team.

... at the EFEO

Anaïs DE FONSECA, a doctoral student of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London and EFEO scholar attached to the Pondicherry Centre, left in August 2014 after having spent 10 months, from October 2013 to August 2014, in Andhra Pradesh to pursue her research entitled "Contemporary Lives of Cherial Paintings from Andhra Pradesh".

Dr. François GRIMAL, Director of studies at the EFEO and former Head of the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO from 1986 to 1999, retired in September 2014. He was named Lecturer Emeritus by the Administrative Council of the EFEO.

Andrey KLEBANOV, doctoral student of the University of Hamburg, who received a postgraduate scholarship granted by the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures at the University of Hamburg left in July 2014 after having spent 9 months from October 2013 at the Pondicherry Centre to study with Dr. S.L.P. Anjaneya Sarma

and continue his research on "The commentaries on *kāvya*: texts composed while copying. A critical study of the manuscripts of selected commentaries on the *Kirātārjunīya*, an epic poem in Sanskrit".

...at the IFP

Dr. Guy ATTEWELL who had joined the IFP in September 2010 as a researcher in the *Societies and Medicines in South Asia* programme of the Social Sciences Department, left in September 2014. He will remain an associated researcher to the IFP.

Dr. Cédric GAUCHEREL, who had joined the IFP as Head of the Ecology Department on September 1, 2010 succeeding to Dr. Raphaël Pélissier, left in August 2014.

Ahmed HAMROUNI, International Volunteer at the Laboratory of Applied Informatics and Geomatics who had joined the IFP on March 25, 2013, left in August 2014.

Ronan DELANCRET, Master 1 student at the University of Tours, France, completed his internship at the IFP between April 28, 2014 to August 8 2014 and successfully defended his internship report titled "Quantitative pollen morphology using a light microscope: A tool to distinguish plant species in south India".

MILESTONES

IFP

➤ **Bharathi Award conferred to Prof. Y. Subbarayalu by the 'Thoughts for People Assembly'**

The Bharathi Award was conferred to **Prof. Y. SUBBARAYALU**, Head of the Indology Department at the IFP, by the 'Thoughts for People Assembly' (Makkal Cintanai Peravai) Erode, at a

function held in Erode on December 11, 2014.

➤ G. Venkatasubramanian successfully defends his Ph.D Thesis

Mr. G. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN, engineer at the Social Sciences Department of the IFP successfully defended his Ph.D. Thesis on **10th November 2014 at 2.30 pm** in the Lecture Hall of the Department of Sociology of the Pondicherry University. The title of his thesis was “*Indebtedness and financial practices of dalit labour force in a semi arid region of Tamil Nadu*” which was supervised at the IFP by Dr. Eric Denis.

➤ Jimmy LE BEC successfully defends his doctoral thesis at the University of Montpellier

Mr. Jimmy LE BEC, who had first joined the Ecology Department of the IFP as a trainee in 2010 under the supervision of Dr. Raphaël Péliissier, has successfully defended his doctoral thesis at the University of Montpellier, France, on October 31, 2014. His thesis, entitled “*Role of the intraspecific variability of demographic processes in heterogeneous forests in order to characterize the ecologic strategies for coexistence of species*”, is an in-depth analysis of the demographic data collected from the Uppangala plot since 1990.

➤ Alexandra de Heering successfully defends her PhD thesis

Ms. Alexandra de HEERING, PhD candidate at the University of Namur, Belgium, who was supervised during her works in India by Mr. M. KANNAN of the IFP, successfully defended her PhD thesis entitled: “*Past Memories in the ceri. Three generations of Cakkiliyars bear witness in Tamil Nadu India*”, at the University of Namur on May 9, 2014, with the unanimous congratulations of the jury.

➤ K. Kalaivanan successfully submits his PhD thesis

Mr. K. KALAIVANAN, PhD candidate registered at the Department of Tamil Literature of the University of Madras, who had benefited from an IFP doctoral scholarship from 2011 to 2014, successfully submitted in July 2014 his thesis titled “*History of print culture in Tamil with reference to Saivism 1800-1950*” under the guidance of Prof. V. Arasu (University of Madras), and M. Kannan (IFP).

➤ S. Prabhavathi, successfully submits her thesis on “History of Tamil comics (1950-2014)”

Ms. S. PRABHAVATHI, PhD student at the Department of Tamil of the Pondicherry University and affiliated to the IFP, successfully submitted her thesis on “History of Tamil comics (1950-2014)” in December 2014. She is working under the guidance of Mr. M. Kannan of the Indology Department of the IFP and will continue to work towards her defence in 2015 while remaining affiliated to the IFP.

PUBLICATIONS

IFP PUBLICATIONS

Vâdivâçal: des taureaux et des hommes en pays tamoul

Récit traduit du tamoul et présenté par **François Gros**, *Regards sur l'Asie du Sud / South Asian Perspectives* n° 3, Institut Français de Pondichéry, 2014, viii, 113 p.

Language: French. **450 Rs (21 €)**. ISBN: 978-81-8470-202-6.

Stalwart of contemporary Tamil literature, C.S. Chellappa made *Vâdivâçal*, his masterpiece, a milestone in modern Tamil fiction because it introduces for the first time both a subject, the *jallikkattu*, a game of bull taming traditional for centuries but now almost extinct, and a new language, colored, dense,

Regards sur l'Asie du Sud / South Asian Perspectives - 3

C. S. CHELLAPPA

Vâdivâçal

Des taureaux et des hommes en pays tamoul



Récit traduit du tamoul et présenté par
François Gros

precise, loaded with a local dialect and vibrant with the inner dynamics of the village life. The zooming alternates between the show of the popular festival and the challenge between a bull extraordinary and the lives and honor of two generations, father and son, of bull tamers. The empathy of the author creates more emotion around the fight: “Once you have read those pages you won’t forget the bull, the man and the *vâdivâçal*. I am aware that I introduce you into a new world.” (C.S. Chellappa, *preface*).

Keywords: contemporary Tamil literature, C. S. Chellappa, French translation

IFP/EFO CO-PUBLICATIONS

Contribution to the History of the Wheeled Vehicle in India

Jean Deloche, Collection Indologie n° 126, Institut Français de Pondichéry / Ecole française d’Extrême-Orient, 2014, xiii, 145 p. incl. b&w figs and 36 pages of b&w plates.

Language: English. **700 Rs (30 €)**. ISBN (IFP): 978-81-8470-201-9. ISBN (EFO): 978-2-85539-217-2.

This book is a contribution to the history of the wheeled vehicle in



CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE WHEELED VEHICLE IN INDIA



by
Jean Deloche

India. In the first part we examine the present carriages, their types and their distribution; then, in the light of these clearly discernible facts, we intend to interpret the sources concerning, on the one hand, the wheeled vehicles from Protohistory to the Mughal period, and on the other hand, the changes introduced by the transport revolution of the middle of the 19th century.

It shows that, prior to the British period, the northern plains of India were favoured with a variety of vehicles for travelling and for goods traffic, many of them with a rudimentary form of suspension, while in the Deccan, most of the country carts were heavy, ill-constructed and not fit for distant journeys.

The reason why the people of Hindusthan showed much greater ingenuity than those of the Deccan concerning the construction of carts is perhaps due to the fact that, over the centuries, greater attention was given there to roads and their maintenance than on the peninsula: at least since Asoka, the sovereigns of the Gangetic Plain were interested in the question of roads, and particularly in the good condition of the Grand Trunk Road and the axes leading to the Gulf of Cambay.

Keywords: History of Technology, India, Wheeled vehicle, Transport

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