

# CSH Library

The CSH Library serves as a key resource centre for scholars in the fields of social sciences and humanities. It houses an extensive and carefully curated collection of academic works in both English and French, covering a wide range of disciplines such as sociology, political science, history, anthropology, economics, and urban studies. The library is open to all researchers, master's & PhD students, and academic professionals engaged in scientific study.

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## Institutional Affiliation



## Partners

- Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Indian Statistical Institute
- Max Weber Forum for South Asian Studies
- Centre for Policy Research
- Institut Français Inde
- Institut Français de Pondichéry



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**CENTRE DE  
SCIENCES  
HUMAINES**

NEW DELHI

The Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH, UMIFRE no. 20) is part of a global network of research units supported by the CNRS and the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE). Founded in Delhi in 1990, the CSH originated from the French Archaeological Delegation in Afghanistan, which moved after the 1980 Soviet invasion. Initially focused on history and Indo-Persian culture, the centre shifted in 1995 to research contemporary social, political, and economic dynamics in India and South Asia.

#### **Objective & Mission**

The CSH serves as a vibrant hub for a diverse community of scholars, including Indian and French researchers, visiting master's & PhD students from around the world, postdoctoral fellows, and international academics. Over the past 30 years, the Centre has built strong partnerships with institutions across India, Europe, and France, while engaging in a wide range of interdisciplinary research topics.

## Projects

CSH is at the forefront of major international research collaborations, leading several funded projects across diverse themes such as cultural commons, agroecology, electoral governance, gender and education, wealth inequality, public health, and sustainable agriculture.

Notable projects include the Palanpur Survey, CHALLINEQ, Ecomore2, AgroEco2050 Outlook, Gender Inequalities in Higher Education and Scientific Careers and studies on caste, education, migration and displacement—reflecting the commitment of CSH to understanding contemporary India through interdisciplinary and global partnerships. Through these efforts, CSH not only contributes to scholarly knowledge but also fosters dialogue between researchers, policymakers, and civil society, ensuring that academic insights translate into meaningful social impact.



## Research Areas

### **Questioning Development: Models, Dynamics, Impacts**

This area explores how inequalities are produced and transformed in contemporary India. With focus on development models, labour dynamics, agrarian change, and access to education. In the context of international debates on the evolution of work and growth trends, this line of research interrogates old and new models of development and offers a better understanding of the transitions and challenges in India today.

### **Documenting Democracy: History, Politics, Citizenship**

This theme investigates the evolution of Indian democracy, through a variety of perspectives, timeframes and scales of observation. It examines key historical moments, political representation, and shifting understandings of citizenship through state policy and public discourse.

### **Populations and Spaces in Transition**

The research in this research area outlines a rapidly changing India, where contemporary transformations are reshaping the spatial and environmental structures of the country. The main drivers of these transition processes are primarily social and economic changes, but also include policy initiatives affecting urban localities, the natural environment and health outcomes. In particular, we focus on the outcomes of these dynamics on urban areas, the natural environment and demographic trends.

## Events

- CSH Seminars
- Urban Workshops (CSH-CPR)
- CSH Workshops
- Film Screenings under Indie Talkies Series
- International Conferences
- Book Launches