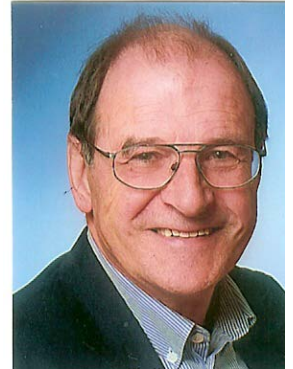




Dear all,

First of all, we at CISCA would like to wish you all the best for the New Year and we sincerely hope that the year has started out well for everyone.

As our calendar is now showing the first days CISCA's second year, it is due time for CISCA's second newspaper, which will be covering the second semester of 2010.



© Hermann Kulke

September – Guest lectures

After the summer break, CISCA re-started its activities in mid-September and invited Professor Hermann Kulke for a series of lectures at Aarhus University. Professor Kulke, although only in Aarhus on the 15th-16th September, first gave a lecture on "**Patterns in Indian history before 1800**" to an audience consisting of first year History and South Asian Studies students, and ended with the lecture "**Buddha was born in Orissa**" with an audience of faculty members.



Not long after Dr. Kulke's visit, CISCA welcomed guest faculty Dr. Biswamoy Pati of Delhi University to Aarhus. Over the course of two weeks, Dr. Pati gave several guest lectures on the basis of his research. On the 23rd of September CISCA board member, Dr. Niels Brimnes teamed up with Dr. Pati for a seminar on "**Colonial Medicine in India**", Dr. Brimnes giving a lecture on "**Shifting approaches to tuberculosis in India c. 1920-1960**" and Dr. Pati on "**Leprosy in Colonial India**".



A week later Dr. Pati gave a lecture called "**Subaltern Studies: a Critique**" at the Dept. of History and Area Studies.

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Acquisitions

Over the last year, CISCA, besides hosting a series of lectures and workshops, has also been able to acquire new teaching materials and has increased the centre's stock books and films. Through our many partners especially in India, CISCA's list of various media is increasing. Meghnath Bhattacharya of AKHRA, Ranchi and CISCA board member Nirmal Kumar of Sri Venkateshwara College have been very helpful in contributing. Thank you. See www.cisca.dk for the full list of acquisitions. We would like to mention two examples of recent acquisitions though. Firstly, related to the workshop in Århus in 2010:

Bhattacharya, Harihar, "The politics of social exclusion in India : democracy at the crossroads", Routledge, London. 2010.

Social exclusion and inclusion remain issues of fundamental importance to democracy. Using an interdisciplinary approach, the book examines at the multidimensional problems of social exclusion and inclusion, and the long-term issues facing contemporary Indian democracy.

From AKHRA, Ranchi, we have received many documentaries:
**"Loha Garam Hai (Iron Is Hot)". Directed by Biju Toppo and Meghnath. 2009.
Produced by AKRHA Ranchi.**

Loha Garam Hai (Iron is Hot) is a no-nonsense, no-holds-barred comment on lop-sided strategies of development. It is focused more on information and education than on the aesthetics of cinema or the beauty of form and content.

November – Guest lecture

On the 12th of November, CISCA welcomed a guest lecturer from London – Dr. Edward Simpson from the Department of Anthropology and Sociology at SOAS. Visiting Århus University, Dr. Simpson delivered a lecture on **"Sublime aftershocks: Sociological reason in the aftermath of an earthquake in Gujarat"**.



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DPU workshop

On the 25th of November, Karen Valentin, CISCA board member and of the Danish School of Education (DPU), co-organised a one-day workshop on **"Religion and childhood education"** in Copenhagen to 'explore the controversial nature of the relationship between religion and childhood education'



CISCA workshop

On the 25th of November another workshop began in India. The CISCA workshop titled **'Revisiting Research Methods in Social Sciences'** took place at the Dept. of Anthropology at Sambalpur University in Sambalpur, Orissa. Funded by the European Union and the Indian Council for Social Science Research Eastern Region and jointly organized by the Dept. Of Anthropology at Sambalpur University and CISCA at Aarhus University. The convenors Prof. Deepak Kumar Behera, Dr. Jens Seeberg and Dr. Uwe Skoda had invited a group of scholars from India and Europe. Although a few colleagues could not attend due to various reasons, particular visa issues, we were engaged in very lively discussions on the following themes and issues:



- The issues of time: "deep ethnography versus short-term field work"
- The challenges of multi-sited field work appropriate in new contexts, yet under the above mentioned constraints.
- The role of interdisciplinarity in approaching topics and fields.
- The potential of auto-ethnography and the ways it can enhance, challenge or supplement the research of foreign researchers entering the field.
- The continuing question of subjectivity and objectivity.



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- Approaches to and ethical dimensions of doing research with particularly vulnerable groups and / or sensitive issues.

- The inclusion of new aids in research such as visual or audio devices and qualitative analysis software.

The workshop not only aimed at looking into these vexed issues of research methodology, but also on the application of research results in the teaching process.

The conference explored the issue of teaching research methods at departments in Denmark and Indian also upon the issue of designing curricula on methodology in a joint Indo-European teaching approach. The sessions in the conference revolved round these objectives. They have been discussed in depth in the papers that were presented.

CISCA in the press

In August, the latest batch of students of the South Asian Studies Programme gave their insights on the programme and CISCA, when 'Stiften' (short for Århus Stifttidende), one of the local papers, printed an article in August 2010. In November, newspapers in Orissa reported widely on the Sambalpur workshop as well.

MoUs

To add to the list of MoUs signed with our partner institutions Allahabad University, Sambalpur University and Sri Venkateshwara College, CISCA has also facilitated the signing of MoUs between Aarhus University / Department of History and Studies with Manipal University and Department of Humanities, IIT Chennai. In case of Manipal University CISCA also acts as liaison office for this MoU.



IIT Madras © Uwe Skoda



Manipal University © Uwe Skoda



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What comes next? June 2011 – Workshop in Aarhus

At the end, we would like to mention that the Contemporary India Study Centre Aarhus at Aarhus University will be hosting its next workshop in June 2011. It will be titled 'Welfare in and Well-being in Modern South Asia'.

The purpose of this workshop is to illuminate and compare attempts by state and non-state agents across South Asia to provide welfare and security with individual and collective experiences of well-being from a cross-disciplinary perspective. Any contribution related to the development of welfare and well-being in South Asia are welcome, but as one of the core areas of CISCA is 'children, aging and health', we are particularly interested in contributions dealing with aspects of childhood, aging and health care.

Convenors:

Professor V. R. Muraleedharan, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras.

Professor Deepak Behera, Department of Anthropology, Sambalpur University

Dr. Karen Valentin, The Danish School of Education, Aarhus University

Dr. Niels Brimnes, Department of History and Area Studies, Aarhus University

Please visit www.cisca.dk to find the call for papers and send your abstract to CISCA@hum.au.dk. Deadline for submission of abstracts is 1 April, 2011.

We are looking forward to have more India- and South Asia related interactions in 2011 and hope to welcome you in Aarhus soon.

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