

Report Title
REPORT SUBTITLE

Name | Course Title |

A group of children, including a girl with a flower crown and several boys, are sitting on stone steps in front of a blue door. The scene is outdoors, and the children are dressed in colorful clothing. The text 'ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023' is overlaid in large white letters on the lower half of the image.

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

FROM FOUNDER CHAIRPERSON'S DESK

Founded by distinguished scholars and social scientists, Anthropos India Foundation (AIF) has been a registered trust in Delhi since 2011. We aim to find and offer practical solutions to social problems in our country using anthropological knowledge and methodologies. As a discipline, anthropology, with its unique philosophy and approaches, has enabled us to understand, address, analyze, and develop sustainable and innovative solutions to the social challenges faced by marginalized communities. Guided by our esteemed advisory team and driven by our dedicated core team, we have actively engaged with a wide range of issues and undertaken various activities through action-oriented and applied research over the past few years.

AIF has been organizing lectures, both in-person and now online, featuring eminent anthropologists on a range of contemporary topics. These lectures aim to update, refresh, and stimulate discussions among academicians and young scholars on ideas related to anthropological traditions, philosophy, methods, and social issues. The series has covered various themes such as anthropological perspectives on COVID-19, illness, stigma, mental health, marginalized communities, and the intersection of anthropology and management. Additionally, some speakers have shared their experiences, highlighting how their anthropological training has supported their professional lives and careers.

We are deeply grateful to all the distinguished speakers who have enthusiastically contributed to this series and enriched us with their insight. The major activities apart from taking community-based research projects is to organize distinguished guest lecture series, organize skill based workshops and seminars and advocate for policy change. This year we made a new addition to our enriching list of activities: we started a short term online course as well as workshops for academicians, researchers and students on ethnography, academic writing, and film and documentary making. We were delighted to get an overwhelming response for the same and we hope to continue with the workshop series on the virtual platform in future for young researchers and scholars. AIF is pleased to share the news of our foray into the arena of publication with all our readers and well-wishers. We recently signed a book series contract with Springer as a co-publisher.

AIF's vision is to bring together anthropological philosophy, methods and concepts and this novel venture has marked our initiation into publishing. We believe that this is a remarkable beginning and we would take many strides together to ensure our dreams become reality. I ardently believe that our collaboration with Springer will enable us to generate new ideas, scholarship and learning for all of us.

Dr Sunita Reddy

FOUNDER CHAIRPERSON (AIF)

ANTHROPOS INDIA FOUNDATION: A GLIMPSE

Anthropos India Foundation (AIF) is a trust, registered in October 2011, Delhi. The aim is to promote the discipline of anthropology, its philosophy and methods, and engage in applied and Action Research. AIF, through its work, seeks to address issues in the local/ regional context, based on the 'emic' perspectives and bottom-up approach to solve the problems faced by the disadvantaged communities and their people. AIF has been conducting community-based research and while doing so, we take into due consideration local knowledge systems and people, work with sincere appreciation and respect towards local culture and ecology as we try to inform the policy initiatives. Apart from conducting community-based action research, AIF also organizes distinguished guest lectures by eminent anthropologists and social scientists which are recorded and available on the official website. The main aim of this lecture series is to share knowledge with young scholars and future generations. AIF is also promoting visual anthropology through vibrant, authentic, meaningful ethnographic films and photo documentation.

Vision:

The vision of Anthropos India Foundation (AIF) is to bring anthropology to the forefront in India. AIF also provides a platform to share, debate and publish research findings in these areas. AIF strives for enhancement, vibrancy and application of anthropological methods and theories in the Indian context, focusing on applied and visual anthropology. Through its action research, we would like to reach out to women, children and other marginalized sections in the areas of health, education and child rights.

Mission:

Anthropology is everywhere, let's practice it; through action research we would like to reach out to women, children and other marginalized sections in the areas of health, education and child rights.

Areas of Work:

- Strengthening anthropological research methods among practitioners;
- Conducting anthropological research;
- Applied and action based research and reaching out to communities;
- Advocacy and policy interventions on the issues of health, education and child rights;
- Organizing and disseminating distinguished guest lectures by eminent anthropologists and social scientists;
- Promoting visual anthropology through vibrant, authentic and meaningful ethnographic films and photo documentation;
- Publishing books;
- Organizing skill based workshops to facilitate employment and upskilling

Our Activities

Distinguished Web Lecture Lecturer Series by AIF

The Anthropological Institute Foundation (AIF) has been organizing a series of lectures, both in-person and online, featuring eminent anthropologists addressing a range of contemporary topics. These lectures aim to provide academicians and emerging scholars with an opportunity to engage with, reflect, and explore ideas related to anthropological traditions, philosophy, methods, and pressing social issues.

The lectures have covered diverse themes such as anthropological perspectives on illness, ethno-medicine and tribal practices, suicide stigma, mental health, marginal communities, disaster management and the intersection of anthropology and management. Several speakers also shared insights from their professional experiences, illustrating how their anthropological training has influenced their work and careers. We are deeply grateful to all the distinguished speakers who enthusiastically contributed to the series, offering valuable knowledge and enriching discussions. Recordings of these lectures are website.

<https://anthroposindiafoundation.com/publications/digital-magazines.html>

LECTURES SERIES (2022-2023):

- On the occasion of World Anthropology Day, 17th February 2022, Anthropos India Foundation organized a panel discussion on the "Anthropology of Children." The panel featured Dr. Satish Ranjan, Molecular Immunologist and COVID-19 Advisor to the Government of India; Mr. Amitabh Srivastava, a senior journalist; Ms. Malvika Joshi, a storyteller and cultural expert; and Dr. Garima Dalal, Assistant Professor at JNU.

The discussion was enriched by the contributions of guest speakers including Prof. Shalina Mehta, Prof. Amitabh Pande, Prof. Rajni Lamba, Dr. Nemthian Guite, and Prof. A.K. Sinha, conversation.

- Dr. Aravinda Meera Guntupalli, Senior Lecturer in Global Health at the Institute of Applied Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Medical Sciences, and Nutrition, University of Aberdeen, Scotland, United Kingdom, delivered a lecture at AIF titled "Complex Association Between Migration and Nutrition" on 3rd April 2023. Her talk delved into the intricate relationships between migration patterns and nutritional health, providing insights into how global health who shared their perspectives and added depth to the

- movements. Professor Sunita Reddy, Chairperson of AIF, delivered a lecture at the National
- Seminar titled “Mental Wellness and Today’s Youth: Stigma and Concerns” (27th April 2022) held at BJB Autonomous College, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Her presentation addressed the challenges surrounding mental health among young people, focusing on the stigma and concerns society.
 - Professor Amareswar Galla, PhD, UNESCO Chair on Inclusive and Sustainable Heritage Development at Anant National University, Ahmedabad, India, and Emeritus Faculty at the University of Queensland, Australia, delivered a lecture on 7th May 2023. His talk explored the intersections of heritage, sustainability, and inclusivity within contemporary global contexts.
 - As part of the Lecture Series on the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) Webinar on “Children & DRR,” held on 13th October 2022, AIF hosted a National Symposium in collaboration with Save the Children India, CRY India, and the Center for Social Equity and Inclusion. The symposium brought together eminent speakers from the Bihar Disaster Series to address the challenges and concerns related to child protection and disaster risk reduction. The discussion emphasized the urgent need for “Breaking the Culture of Silence Against Child Sexual Abuse: Towards an Integrated Action Plan for Prevention.” A detailed report of the symposium can be accessed at the following link: [AIF Publications] (<https://www.anthroposindiafoundation.com/publications/research.html>).
 - In commemoration of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on 15th October 2022, a distinguished panel of experts participated in a discussion on disaster risk reduction and child protection. The speakers included Mr. Anil Kumar Sinha, IAS (Retd.), Gargi Saha, Child Protection Specialist at UNICEF, Dr. Javed Rashid, Faculty from the University of Kashmir, Sarabjeet Singh Sahota, Disaster Risk Reduction Specialist at UNICEF, and Dr. Sunita Reddy, Founder and Chairperson of AIF. They shared valuable insights on the intersection of child protection and disaster risk management, highlighting the need for issues.
 - Dr. Narasimhan, Associate Professor of Anthropology at the Department of Liberal Arts, IIT Hyderabad, delivered a lecture on “Medical Anthropology in the New Millennium: Recent Developments in the Field” (23 December 2022). Her research interests include medical anthropology, media and gender, and her talk focused on the evolving trends in medical anthropology and their relevance to contemporary issues.

WORKSHOPS (2022-2023)

At AIF, we identified the need for courses on ethnography, fieldwork methods, and academic writing tailored for young researchers, students, and faculty. Our goal was to equip scholars with both traditional fieldwork techniques and introduce them to modern approaches in these fields. Driven by a desire to promote academic writing and help scholars navigate the peer review process and publication journey, we initiated the organization of workshops. Given the challenges posed by the pandemic and our aim to reach as many students as possible, AIF made these workshops accessible virtually.

Esteemed faculty from universities across India contributed to this effort, delivering insightful lectures on a variety of topics. The positive response from students and scholars nationwide validated our efforts and reinforced the importance of such initiatives.

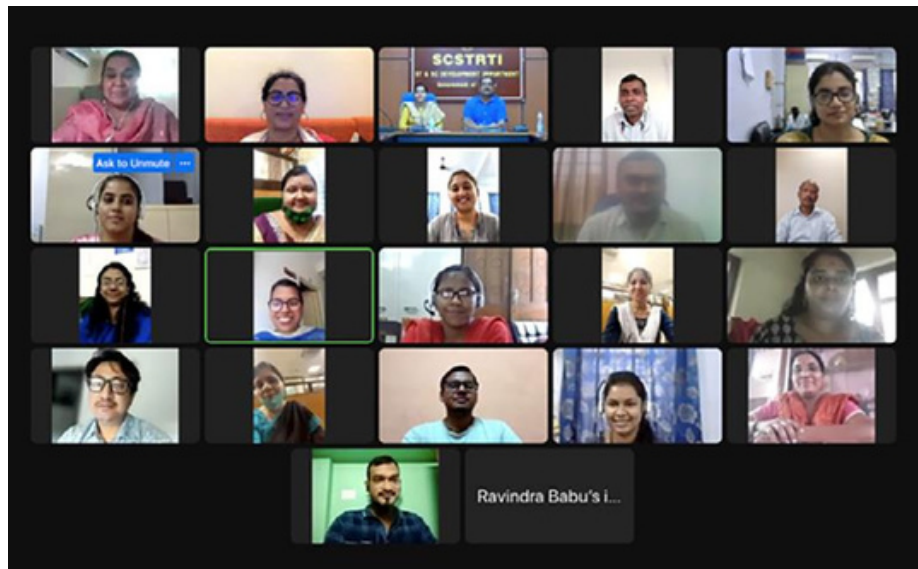
- Anthropos India Foundation held an online workshop on “Understanding and Applying Anthropological Theories” from 11th July 2022 to 16th July 2022. The workshop attracted students, researchers, and young faculty members from across India. Over the course of four days, the workshop provided a comprehensive review of the major theoretical approaches that define the discipline of anthropology. Senior faculty members delivered lectures on evolutionism, diffusionism, functionalism, structuralism, interpretive and symbolic anthropology and postmodernism. By focusing on key schools of thought and prominent theorists, the workshop offered participants a critical understanding of these theories and equipped them with the skills to propose their own theories in their research.

Feedback Video: <https://www.facebook.com/100013611541182/videos/767806130919160/>

- A seven-week Training Program on Research Methods and Report Writing was organized by the ~~Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI), Government of Odisha, and Anthropos India Foundation (AIF), with support from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.~~ The program ran from 18th July 2022 to 23rd August 2022. The training, which saw participation from 55 personnel across 23 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in the country, was conducted every alternate day of the week. Under the guidance of Prof. A.B. Ota, Director & Special Secretary of SCSTRTI, and Dr. Sunita Reddy, Chairperson of AIF, the program aimed to enhance the skills of TRI personnel in research methods, report writing, and presentation.



Dr. Navaljit Kapoor, Joint Secretary, MoTA, inaugurated the program with an encouraging address. Experts from various institutions, including Prof. Sanghmitra Acharya (JNU), Prof. Ramesh C. Gaur (NSD), Prof. Vaishna Narang (Retd., JNU), Dr. E. Kannan, Dr. Sunita Reddy, Dr. Nemthianngai Guite, Dr. Garima Dalal (JNU), Dr. Prashant Khattri (University of Allahabad), and Dr. Chakraverti Mahajan (University of Delhi), led the sessions. The capacity- building training provided a foundational understanding of both quantitative and qualitative research methods, proposal writing, report writing, and presentation skills. Participants were equipped with various research methods, tools, and data collection techniques to enhance their research capabilities.



- On 10th November 2022, AIF collaborated with BUDS organization to host a one-day workshop focused on community engagement for child safety. The workshop aimed to sensitize civil society and raise awareness about child rights. The session was moderated and co-chaired by Dr. Prof. R.N. Srivastava, Advisor at ICANCL and IAP, and Dr. Yogesh Sarin, Immediate Past President of the Indian Association of Pediatric Surgeons. Discussions covered various topics under the National Health Mission (NHM), including rights-based needs for newborns, early child care, breastfeeding, weaning, malnutrition, anemia, and vaccinations. Dr. Prof. Uma Nayak, Chair Elect of ICANCL, also contributed to the workshop.
- On 29th June 2023, AIF organized a workshop on Digital Ethnography. The workshop highlighted the importance of digital ethnography in uncovering how technology mediates human relationships, shapes social networks, and transforms cultural practices. It provided researchers with insights into the diverse ways digital life influences and intersects with contemporary social phenomena.

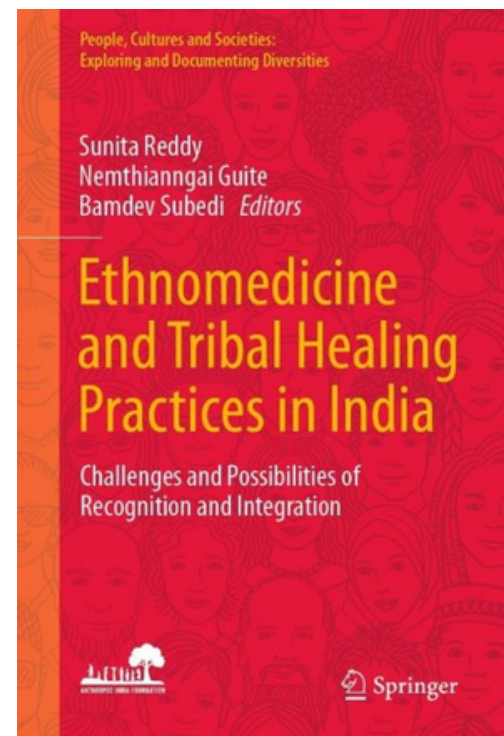
PUBLICATIONS

The book **Caste, COVID, and Inequality** by Prof. Sanghmitra Acharya and Dr. Steven, published by Springer in collaboration with Anthropos India Foundation, has been released. This book is part of the series **People, Cultures, and Societies: Exploring and Documenting Diversities**. The release occurred during the South Asia Women's Conference, held on 27-28th May 2022, which was organized by the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences and KIIT.



Ethnomedicine and Tribal Healing Practices in India: Challenges and Possibilities of Recognition and Integration, edited by Dr.Sunita Reddy, Nemthianngai Guite, and Bamdev Subedi, explores the role of tribal healing practices in healthcare. Published by Springer Singapore (February 2023), the book features research by anthropologists, sociologists, and public health experts across India.

It examines non-codified folk healing traditions, addressing issues like legitimacy, recognition, intellectual property rights, and sustainable use of medicinal herbs. The book provides insights for students and researchers in medical anthropology, public health, and tribal studies, emphasizing the potential of integrating ethnomedicine into mainstream healthcare systems.



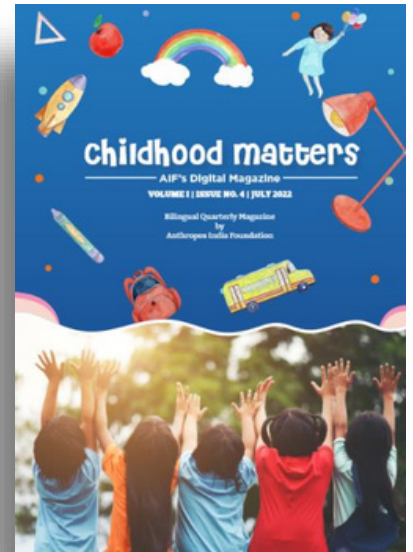
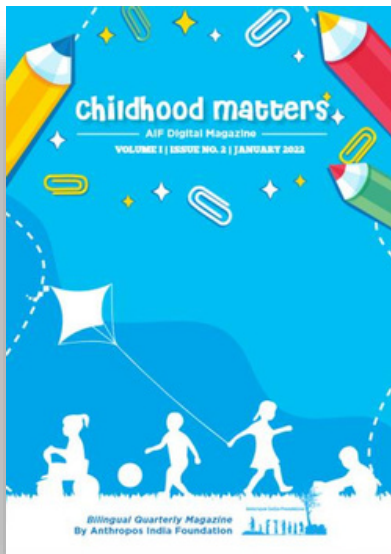
On 26th August 2023, Dr. Sunita Reddy, founder of Anthropos India Foundation, presented the inaugural book *Child Protection and Child Rights in India* published by Anthropos Books, to Shree Rakesh Sinha, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha.

The book, *Child Protection and Child Rights in India: COVID-19 Experiences and Contemporary Challenges*, offers an insight into the challenges against children. It examines how various contexts and policies influence the definition and protection of children. The edited volume includes contributions from experts in child rights, law, judiciary, activism, and academia, including sociology, anthropology, psychology, and social work. Based on extensive research and practice, the book aims to provide insights and solutions for researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and educators dealing with child protection and rights issues.



DIGITAL MAGAZINE

Anthropos India foundation released the three issues of its bilingual digital magazine *Childhood Matters*. The launch event for the third edition was attended by editors, contributors, teachers, senior members, and students. Prof. Geetika Ranjan authored the guest editorial, commending AIF's initiatives. Senior editors, including Shri Amitabh Srivastav, Dr. Garima Dalal, Dr. Samana Madhuri, and Mrs. Poonam Kudesiya, shared their insights on the magazine. The event was also marked by the participation of writers who contributed to this issue, such as Ms. Mini, Ms. Archana Yadav, Mumuksha Porwal, Habiba Haroon, and Aviraj Arora.



JOURNEY THUS FAR AND THE PATH FORWARD

Anthropos India Foundation (AIF) is dedicated to advancing the understanding and application of anthropology in India. With a focus on action-oriented research, AIF addresses social issues by applying ethnographic methods and respecting local knowledge, culture, and ecology. Unlike other anthropological associations that focus on networking and seminars, AIF emphasizes applied research, particularly in the areas of public health, gender, and children's issues. AIF aims to tackle disparities in India's stratified society, particularly among vulnerable populations like women, children, and the elderly. The foundation uses research to understand local contexts and traditional wisdom, and then applies culturally appropriate solutions. Key focus areas include addressing child abuse, violence against women, and the welfare of marginalized groups, such as urban slum dwellers and tribal communities in the Northeast engaged in traditional healing practices.

AIF also empowers researchers through training programs and guest lectures, helping them gain new perspectives on tackling social issues. Economic empowerment, particularly for women, is a key priority, with initiatives to promote digital knowledge, banking, and renewable energy solutions. Recently, Anthropos India Foundation became a key supporting partner of the United India Anthropology Forum (UIAF), contributing to the development of anthropological research and training programs for young professionals. Dr. Sunita Reddy attended the General Body Meeting of UIAF, which was chaired by Prof. Deepak Kumar Behera, Vice Chancellor of KISS-DU. Dr. Sunita Reddy, Chairperson of Anthropos India Foundation, was facilitated by Union Minister Shri Arjuna Munda during the World Anthropology Congress 2023, held at Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar.



PARTNERSHIPS



MEMBERS

PATRONS

- Dr Rajender Dhar, MA and PhD, has 38 years of professional experience having worked in multinational, corporate, private sector, Ministry of Commerce. He retired as Additional Labour He has conducted more than 100 training programmes for government officers/officials and for corporates on labour issues. He is a visiting faculty at EPFO, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, IIPA, IMI, IIT (Delhi), PFRDA, FMS (Delhi University), JNU etc. He is also empanelled as Visiting Faculty to National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). Dr Dhar was instrumental and architect of Wages Revision in Delhi, benefitting more than 55 lakh workers working in the formal as well as informal sectors and published as a book “Wage Revision: A Success Story Delhi”. Post- retirement from Labour Department Government of Delhi, Dr Dhar has been appointed as Consultant-cum-Advisor by Central Government in Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India. Dr. Dhar is a Ghazal singer and has given many programmes and has also sung as playback singer in 4-5 Doordarshan/ TV programmes.

TRUSTEES

- Dr Sunita Reddy, Founder Chairperson, Anthropos India Foundation, is an anthropologist, teaching as Associate Professor at the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health (CSMCH), School of Social Sciences (SSS), Jawaharlal Nehru University. She has 20 years of experience in the field of research and teaching. She is the author of three books and many research papers in peer-reviewed journals. She has completed projects successfully on Medical Tourism, Surrogacy, Gender Violence, Child Abuse, Indigenous Healing systems, Disaster studies, Migrant workers in the construction and domestic sector. She is also the honorary president for a community-based organization called ‘SATAT’ (www.satat.org) which works for empowering women and children from marginalized sections.
- Mr CM Shankara Reddy is an Ex. Air Force Officer, took voluntary retirement settled in Bangalore. He served in various air force stations in the Air traffic Control and took various important assignments. He was posted in Gauhati, Shillong, Ambala, Jorhat, Bombay, Sirsa, Jodhpur, Surat Gargh and Air Force Academy (AFA). He retired from AFA and settled initially in Hyderabad. Post-retirement he took agriculture and also construction work by peer learning. He could build homes for many families in Hyderabad, Madanpalli and Bangalore. He is settled in Bangalore with his wife, son and grandchildren.
- Mrs Kavita Tank is an educationist, teaching for the past 17 years in Bishop Cotton Girls School, moulding and inspiring young girls towards the path of learning and enlightenment. She is also a

member of Civil Defence Karnataka and have been doing a lot of good work in COVID response along with her two beautiful and committed daughters. She has a wide variety of hobbies and keeps herself engaged in paintings, drawings, mural making, embroidery, dancing and music. She lives in Bangalore with a supportive husband and young daughters. Mr M Suresh Kumar is currently the president of Group Shipping & HR, Bothra group. He is a top management professional with a demonstrated history of working in the Maritime industry. Skilled in Negotiation, Business Planning, Operations Management, Freight, and International Business. He has strong sales professional experience and hands-on experience in running incubation programs for Management Trainees. His hobbies are cycling, reading books and travelling. He lives in Vishakhapatnam with his wife and two young daughters.

- Dr. Nemthiנגai Guite is our Executive Committee Member, presently she is an Associate professor in the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She has also taught in the Department of Social Work, University of Delhi as an Assistant Professor for 11 years. She is a trained social worker with specialization in public health. Her research and teaching interests include Medical Pluralism; Indigenous healing systems; Global Discourses on Biodiversity and Indigenous knowledge on Medicinal Plants and Substances; Public Health and Social Work; Health Care Social Work Practice; Social Groups and Social Networks; Public Health Communication. Some of her distinguished international fellowships include Fulbright Nehru Post Doctoral Fellowship awarded by USIEF in 2016, and Shastri Mobility Programme awarded by SICI in 2018. She has published in national and international journals of repute and has a couple of books to her credit.

ADVISORY MEMBERS

- Kamal K. Misra is currently an ICSSR Senior Fellow and was formerly the Vice-Chancellor of Utkal University of Culture, Bhubaneswar. He was Professor of Anthropology and Dean, School of Social Sciences at the Central University of Hyderabad. He was educated at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar; Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; and the University of Kent at Canterbury, UK. He was the recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Award in the USA and the Commonwealth Academic Staff Fellowship in the UK. He was also invited by the University of Bergen, Norway as a Guest Researcher. He was honored with Sarat Chandra Roy Memorial Medal by the Asiatic Society, Kolkata for his contribution to Anthropology in Asia. Prof. Misra was the Director of the National Museum of Mankind, Bhopal, and the Director of the Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata. He taught at Utkal University, University of Hyderabad and at Austin College, Texas, USA.
- Prof. Deepak K Behera, (Retired) Professor, Department of Anthropology Sambalpur University is presently Vice-Chancellor of KISS Deemed University. Prof. Behera also served as Vice-Chancellor to Sambalpur University. He was a Fulbright Visiting Professor at California State University at Long Beach. Prof. Behera is the recipient of the prestigious Sarat Chandra Roy Memorial Gold Medal by the Asiatic Society, Kolkata (the oldest educational institution in Asia) for his outstanding contribution in the field of Cultural Anthropology in India.

- Dr. Alison Kahn, is the Visiting Fellow in Digital Learning Systems in the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences at Loughborough University and Director of Cultural Heritage and Digital Learning Lab, SDS Group, (Research) U.K. Dr. Alison Kahn was trained as an anthropologist at the universities of London (MA) and Oxford (MPhil, DPhil). Alison is Director of the Oxford Documentary Film Institute, which specialises in workshops on factual filmmaking and emerging digital methods as tools for research. She is a research and tutorial fellow in Museum Anthropology and Modernist Literature at Stanford University Overseas Program in Oxford. Her research portfolio spans across material culture studies, visual, digital, and museum anthropology. Her recent projects experimenting with digital media formats have included non-linear storytelling with ebooks, interactive documentaries, VR and AR technologies.
- Dr K. Anil Kumar, is an Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Anthropology, IGNOU, New Delhi. His area of specialization in the discipline is Socio-cultural Anthropology and areas of research interests in Culture and Environment, Indigenous Knowledge, Natural Resource Management, Health & Nutrition, Development-induced Displacement, Resettlement and Rehabilitation, and Tribal Studies

DIGITAL MAGAZINE EDITORS

- Dr. Shaweta Anand, also a Senior Consultant and Coordinator at AIF, is a story-teller, writer and researcher by calling. Dr. Shaweta started her career as a journalist nearly two decades ago. After reporting stories for reputed newspapers and magazines, she pursued formal study in the field of human rights from the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her core areas of interest are gender studies, women's movement and child rights. Her doctoral thesis captured the perspectives of trafficked and rescued child labourers while her M.Phil explored the experiences of trafficked women. She has worked within the marginalized community as a volunteer or through association with NGOs to build an understanding about various public health issues. She has been invited as an expert for sensitizing government officials with regard to rights and felt-needs of rescued child-labourers. She has also taught social science and media subjects to students briefly at the university. She deeply believes that there is nothing that copious doses of music, meditation and laughter cannot heal and overcome.
- Amitabh Srivastava is a Delhi-based senior bilingual journalist, blogger and poet. He writes for mediamap.co.in, a website dealing in issues such as politics, cinema, gender issues, education, theatre etc. In an illustrious career spanning for more than four decades, he has worked with top media platforms such as Hindustan Times, Sahara Times, Patriot, Navjivan, Rashtriya Sahara, National Herald etc. His deep involvement with Prayas JAC Society since 2013 adds fresh perspective into issues concerning women and children. Amitabh has a postgraduate degree in English literature from Hindu College, Delhi University. He presently advises and inspires the government and the people through his write-ups and poetry.
- Malavika Joshi is a prolific poet, writer and an expert teller of children stories rooted in the Indian culture and tradition. She enjoys a large virtual fan-following for her story-telling sessions and workshops. Her poem collection is already published as a book while two more are in the

pipeline. An avid theatre person, with the experience of acting in many stage and television plays with prestigious groups and eminent directors, Malavika is also a trained Bharatnatyam dancer, choreographer, and a classical vocalist. She has the prestigious B-High grade certification by the All India Radio as well. She has taught children from the higher secondary school to nursery for a substantial number of years and has developed innovative teaching methodologies along the way as an academic. She derives a lot of pleasure in inculcating the joy of learning among children. She holds a Masters in Botany and Education.

- Dr Samana Madhuri is an Assistant Professor in the Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya, West Bengal. She completed her PhD on Contemporary South Asian Writings in Britain from Centre for English Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture, Jawaharlal Nehru University. Her areas of interest are Diaspora Studies, Indian Writings in English, Women Studies and Popular Culture. She is our Volunteer Editor and nothing goes amiss through her keen eyes.
- Dr Promila Pandita is an anthropologist and educator with over two decades of experience in the field of education, focusing on young children. She has taught the IB and Cambridge curricula, specializing in Environmental Systems and Societies and Environmental Management, and holds a graduation in Montessori curriculum. Dr Pandita has also earned a Master's degree from Hyderabad Central University and a PhD in Anthropology from Delhi University. Her extensive work in education has deepened her understanding of the importance of positive disciplining for children. From volunteering in public schools in Fremont, California, for reading programs for the mentally handicapped, to assisting visually impaired students, Dr Pandita has developed a profound understanding of the needs of children from all walks of life. She believes that at her background in anthropology is instrumental in connecting with children and addressing their diverse needs.

JOIN US

We at AIF are fortunate to have a constant flow of Interns and Researchers who willingly contribute their precious time, skill sets, knowledge, dedicatedly work with us and enrich our working environment. The young researchers in return get the opportunity to share, learn and apply their knowledge as well as first-hand experience of conducting action research. They are trained by the senior mentors at AIF and work closely with the Core Working Team. The Interns and Visiting Fellows work on the projects, help in admin work, fieldwork and data collection and are often paid small honorarium and receive an experience certificate.





NOTE OF THANKS

As a small organization, AIF embraces new learnings, values its modest achievements, and continuously grows from its experiences. Our journey over the past few years has strengthened us, enabling us to make meaningful contributions to society. We deeply appreciate the support of our Advisory Members, Executive Team Members, and our dedicated Core Team. The enthusiasm and involvement of every Researcher, Visiting Fellow, and Intern are highly valued and greatly appreciated.

Reflecting on this year, we are pleased with the recognition and fulfillment our activities have brought. Our circle of supporters has expanded, and we look forward to more productive years ahead. Committed to supporting marginalized communities, particularly women and children, we aim to advance our action research projects and innovate in the coming years.

Our ongoing challenge is securing consistent funding and expanding our research team. We sincerely thank all who have supported us, both directly and indirectly, and we hope for continued support in the future. We are grateful for all collaborations, from which we continually learn and grow.

*In the dawn of each new day,
We rise to chase the light of way.
With steps unsteady, yet so bold,
We press ahead, our stories told.
The past may whisper, shadows cast,
But forward's call outshines the past.
Embrace the road, let dreams take flight,
For in the journey lies the might.
With hope as guide and heart aglow,
We venture forth, let futures flow.
Each step we take, though small it seems,
Builds bridges strong to brighter dreams.*

