

IASSH NEWSLETTER

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I. DRUMBEATS

IASSH successfully completed fifth National

conferences with the blessings of Lord Puri Jagannath. The theme of the conference was “Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) & Health” organised by Centre for Healthcare Management, Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar, Orissa. The Chief Guest for the inauguration of the conference was Shri. Nesim Tumkaya, UNFPA Representative. The conference was started with the welcome address by Prof.S.Peppin, K.E.Vaidyanthan, gave introduction speech to the conference bring out the interrelationships between Social Science and Health followed by presidential address by Prof.P.K.B.Nayar, special address by Mr. Shadrack Omol, UNICEF Representative for the State of Orissa; and Inaugural address by Fr. P.T. Joseph. S.J., Director, XIMB. Prof. W.S. William, Dean, XIMB; Fr. E.A. Augustine, S.J., Dean (Admn. & Fin), XIMB extended vote of thanks.



This conference made an attempt to bring participants from various institutions to share their views on how to achieve health related goals to promote development because Health being an important indicator of social development. In all 120 abstracts were submitted and attended by around 150 scientists, researchers and program personals.

Fifth conference has identified three themes for the symposia a) MDGs for Health Development, b) Health sector reforms, c) Managerial challenges in Healthcare. There were eleven technical sessions: 1.Globalization and Equity in Health care (MDGs themes: 1, 3,5,6,7 &8), 2. Rural Society and NRHM (MDGs themes: 1, 4, 5 & 6), 3. HIV/AIDS & Health (MDGs themes: 6), 4. Population Growth and Care of the Aged (MDGs themes: 7), 5. Women and child development (MDGs themes: 3, 4 &5), 6. Public Private Partnership (MDGs themes: 8), 7. Healthcare financing (MDGs themes: 1, 3, 4, 5&6) 8. Health system performance-1 (MDGs themes: 3, 4, 5 &8), 9. Ethics and quality in Healthcare (MDGs theme: 8), 10. Health system performance-2 (MDGs themes: 3, 4, 5 &8), 10. Corporate Social responsibility for health care (MDGs themes: 3, 4, &5) and 11. Health system performance-1 (MDGs themes: 3, 4, 5 &8).

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Three day long conference was attended by researchers, program personals who were working in the field of Health, Sociology, Economics, Demography, Anthropology, Psychology, Finance, Management and many others.

IASSH is very much thankful to Fr. P. T. Joseph, SJ, Director of XIMB, for graciously consenting to host the 5th conference and to Professor S.Peppin of the Centre for Healthcare Management, XIMB, for his strategic management in organizing the conference with a strong support from the budding Managers. Thanks are also due to Dr. Nesim Tumkaya, UNFPA Representative, New Delhi, Mr. Shadrack Omol, UNICEF representative for Orissa, Ms.Paula Qulgley, Program Advisor, GTZ, Dr. Nachiket More of ICICI Bank, Dr. A. R. Nanda of Population Foundation of India and other donors and supports for their generous financial assistance for the successful organization of the conference.

II. Research:

a) Population Council:

Latest Population Council Research Findings to be Presented at Population Association of America Annual Meeting :NEW YORK (10 April 2008)—News and findings from the Population Council's HIV and AIDS; Poverty, Gender, and Youth; and Reproductive Health programs will be shared next week at the Population Association of America Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Please visit the Council's Web site for detailed information, including abstracts:

www.popcouncil.org/mediacenter/Events/2008PAA/index.html

b) HIV/AIDS:

Centre for AIDS Rehabilitation and Education (CARE) in Madurai, is currently working with around 4000 persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLHAs).Dr. Rajaratnam Abel, who is associated with CARE, published a research article in Lancet:

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Rajaratnam Abel: “Home and community based care and support ushering in post ART era in Tamil Nadu India”. April 03 2008. For full text visit:

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608603207/comments?action=view&totalComments=2#1540>

The major findings of the study are:

- a. Deaths due to HIV/AIDS have dramatically come down including those who are terminally ill.
- b. Stigma has significantly come down with the support and confidence given by the families to cope up with the illness.
- c. This acceptance has ensured that many get better food in the home increasing their immunity.
- d. The counseling provided has given a positive outlook in life for many PLHAs.
- e. Since the CD4 count is an important criterion for starting ART, almost all of them are aware of their CD4 counts. Those whose CD4 counts are high enough to postpone starting ART are confident that they will get the drugs if necessary.
- f. Positive outlook by the families and community has brought out a change among people living with HIV/AIDS.

Apparently the silver lining on the HIV/AIDS problem is beginning to be visible at last.

For details contact: rajaratnamabel@yahoo.com and to get a reprint.

III. Fellowship for Higher Education:

Bharathiar University, Coimbatore: www.b-u.ac.in

Full-Time Ph. D. Registration in Population Studies: The candidate should possess M. A., / M. Phil. Degree in Population Studies and/or other Social Science with 55% marks and above. A Fellowship amount of Rs. 3,500/- per month for a period of 3 years to those with Masters Degree and for 2 years for those with M. Phil Degree with a contingency grant

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of Rs. 3,500/- per years will be awarded.

External Ph. D. Registration, in Population Studies, Sociology and Social Work from Bharathiar University, Coimbatore in all subjects. Those who are interested visit: www.b-u.ac.in or contact: Dr. N. Audinarayana, e-mail: audi_bu@yahoo.co.in

IV. WEB RESOURCES:

1. Population and Reproductive Health on the Development Gateway: New resources have been added to Population and Reproductive Health: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org/pop> <http://topics.developmentgateway.org/poverty>
2. International Poverty Centre, (IPC): IPC publications are available at: <http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/ipcpublications.htm> , you can also receive - mails by writing to contact.service@undp-povertycentre.org
3. Population Council book explores economic consequences of the aging of the global workforce more in www.popcouncil.org/mediacenter/newsreleases/pdrsupp34.html
4. And find more population and health information at www.prb.org. PRB also offers E-mail News, providing updates on new publications and programs.

To subscribe, send an e-mail to listserv@listserv.prb.org and put SUBSCRIBE NEWS in the body of the message. Print copies of selected PRB publications are also available by writing popref@prb.org. Copies are free to those in developing countries.

5. Population and Health Info Share (www.phishare.org) is another information resource. Administered by PRB, Info Share is an electronic library of documents contributed by more than 80 partner organizations worldwide. To subscribe, send an e-mail to: phishare@prb.org.

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V. WEB LINKS:

The Population Council USA has a number of resources relating to reproductive health and Family Planning

Media Center <http://www.popcouncil.org/mediacenter/index.htm>

Contraception : <http://www.popcouncil.org/rh/contraception.html>

Safe Motherhood/Postpartum Care: <http://www.popcouncil.org/rh/safemom.html>

Contraception: http://www.popcouncil.org/Frontiers/projects_pubs/topics/contraception/contraf.html

For further information contact:

Frontiers in Reproductive Health (FRONTIERS):E-mail: frontiers@popcouncil.org

WHO (World Health Organization): MAKER: MAKER stands for “Managers taking Action based on Knowledge and Effective use of resources to achieve Results”. This website has useful information on **health-related** issues appropriate for policy makers and managers engaged in health projects of Tanzania. <http://www.who.int/management/country/tza/en/>

Indian Women:

“Indian women’s Health” from its research findings says “90-95 PER CENT OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS IN OUR COUNTRY HAVE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROBLEM DUE TO EXCESS DEFICIENCY OF FOLIC ACID,” and irrespective of age and sex it is advised to know the BMI, CALCIUM REQUIREMENT etc. for further details visit:

www.indianwomenshealth.com

VI. Conferences/Seminars

a) ASIA - PACIFIC SOCIAL SCIENCE AND MEDICINE CONFERENCE

(APSSAM 2008), Manila, Philippines, Oct. 20-22, 2008

The Asia Pacific Network (APNET) of the International Forum for Social Sciences and Health is organizing the 7th Asia Pacific Social Science and Medicine (APSSAM) Conference in Manila, Philippines during Oct. 20 -22, 2008. The theme of the conference is **Resiliency in the face of conflicts and social inequalities in the Asia Pacific**

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Region. There are 12 sub themes around the main theme.

Though the last date for submission of abstracts is over, you may still contact the organizers about this. You may **also ask for financial assistance**.

The conference website is <http://cas.upm.edu.ph/apssam/index.html> and email: apssam08@gmail.com. Address your queries to Dr. Laurie S. Ramiro at lsramiario8888@yahoo.com

For further enquiries please contact Dr. P.K.B. Nayar, Member of APNET Steering Committee at pkbnayar@yahoo.co.in

b) CENTRE FOR GERONTOLOGICAL STUDIES, TRIVANDRUM 695 011

The is an international centre for interdisciplinary studies and research on aging started in 1983 by professors of social sciences from universities in five south Indian states . It is celebrating its Silver Jubilee this year. It plans to hold a series of seminars and conferences among others on aging during this year, including an International Colloquium on the Oldest Old (80+). Details about the Programme will be posted in the Center's website www.cgsindia.com by the end of this month. Dr. P.K.B. Nayar, former President of IASSH is the Chairman of the Centre. (Email: pkbnayar@yahoo.co.in)

c) XXVI INTERNATIONAL POPULATION CONFERENCE, Marrakeck

(Morocco), Sept. 27 to October 2, 2009

This conference is organized by the International Union for Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and is held once in 4 years. Papers on 23 themes and over 100 sub themes are invited. There are a limited number of scholarships. Details can be had from the conference website www.iussp.org/marrakech2009, email: marrakech2009@iussp.org

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VII. Awards/Rewards:

(a) Dr Balaiah Donta Awarded Drs Anant and Lata Labhsetwar Award.



Dr Balaiah Donta is a Senior Deputy Director (Scientist 'F') at the National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health, Mumbai. His work involved various strategies and modalities for enhancing participation of men in several issues of reproductive health and also sustainability of those intervention programmes. He is also perusing research programmes to expand contraceptive choices and prevalence of contraceptive methods both in urban and rural population settings. **Drs Anant and Lata Labhsetwar Charitable trust award is given to the Scientist working in the field of "Population Control and Family Planning"**. This year 18th Annual Conference of Indian Society for the Study of Reproduction and Fertility (ISSRF) was held during 20 - 22 Feb 2008 at Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad and on 21 February 2008 Dr Labhsetwar Award was given to Dr Balaiah Donta, e-mail: bdonta2007@yahoo.co.in

(b) Dr. K. E. Vaidyanathan on a short assignment in Sudan

Dr.K.E.Vaidyanathan, President of IASSH proceeded to Khartoum on a short United Nations assignment as an International Monitor for the Fifth Population Census in Sudan which took place during 22 April -5th May, 2008. His role is to check whether the census procedures were followed according to international standards, and give a report to the authorities and other stake holders. He will be returning to India by end of May 2008.e-mail: vaidyake@hotmail.com

VIII. Books:

(a) Latest Arrivals:

1. "The family in India: Structure and Practice" Ed. Tulsi Patel, University of Delhi, Delhi, **Sage Publications**, New Delhi
2. "Sociology of Religion in India", Ed. Rowena Robinson, IIT, Mumbai, **Sage Publications**, New Delhi
3. "Sociology of Gender : The challenge of Feminist Sociological Knowledge", Ed: Sharmila Rege, University of Pune, **Sage Publications**, New Delhi

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4. "[A Sociology of Health](#)", Ed: David WinWrite , University of Bath, **Sage Publications**, New Delhi
5. "[Quantitative Social Research Methods](#)", Kultar Singh, Sambodhi Research and Communications, New Delhi, **Sage Publications**, New Delhi.

(b) Book Review:

1. "**HIV and AIDS Vulnerability of Women in Asia and Africa**", edited by **Kiran Prasad and U.V.Somayajulu, the Women Press, Bhamashah Marg, Delhi-110009**, 2008, Rs. 995, contact: brpc@vsnl.com

This book focuses on the vulnerability of women in Asia and Africa to HIV/AIDS from various forces such as the wider social, cultural, economic and political factors. It takes a hard look at the risks of HIV/AIDS that affect women directly or indirectly through poverty, lack of education and livelihood opportunities, inhuman traditions, low social status, poor health care and lack of control over sexual relationships.

This book has eleven chapters with the first chapter providing an overview of the women's vulnerability to HIV/AIDS in Asia and Africa. Chapter 2 to 5 discuss the vulnerability of women from India including rural and urban women, women in sex work, unmarried female college students and married women. Chapter 6 discusses about HIV prevention among Pakistani youth through behaviour change communication, while chapter 7 examines the relationship between sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS vulnerability in Bangladesh. In chapter 8, analysis of media response to AIDS vulnerability in China is presented while chapter 9 presents the vulnerability of Indonesian women to HIV/AIDS. Chapter 10 presents gender perspectives on incidence and prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Sub Saharan Africa. The last chapter lists out the key policy implications and future directions in the light of the results discussed in the preceding chapters.

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The studies presented here on sexual behaviour, knowledge of AIDS, attitudes and behaviour change communication point to actions that can be strengthened and stepped up to arrest the spread of the epidemic. The findings documented here have important implications for prevention, treatment and care of women infected by HIV/AIDS. They also provide insight into factors related to sexual behaviour across gender, age groups and populations. The book will also provoke fresh debates on educational and communication strategies addressing the vulnerability of women on HIV/AIDS. One of few books which through light on women and their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS.

2. “Sexuality and Sexual Behaviour among Unmarried Young Boys: A Study in Rural and Urban Settings of Tamil Nadu” Monograph May 2008, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore for further details contact: audi_bu@yahoo.co.in Rs.150/-

This book is an outcome of an empirical study carried out among 2000 unmarried young boys (15-24 years) belongs to Rural and Urban settings of Coimbatore and Erode districts of Tamil Nadu. The focus was on the prevalence of pre-marital sexual behaviour and its determinants among young boys, their knowledge about various aspects of sexuality, gender-specific attitudes about the pre-marital sex and related issues and gender-specific myths and misconceptions related to pre-marital sex. The findings would be useful for evolving educational strategies for improving the sexual health of the young boys and making policy formulations by health, youth and social welfare departments and for academicians and researchers engaged in sexuality and related issues including HIV/AIDS.

3. “Gujarat Pogrom-2002”, K.Gopal, Jaunpuri Shiksha Mission, Jaunpur, U.P., 2006, contact: Dr. K.Gopal, dr_k_gopal@yahoo.co.in . Rs.200 (Paper back)

Gujarat Pogrom-2002 is a detailed study of the genocide in Gujarat. Information for this book has been collected from media reports in dailies, magazines, journals, action research report and interview with the people. Gujarat Pogrom-2002 was not spontaneous. It was a result of a decade long preparation of *Hindutva* dream. This book highlight the state sponsored and supported massacre of minorities and participation of tribal in communal riots in a big way. Author argues that the involvement of political parties who are supporting *Hindutva* is the main cause for genocide in tribal dominating districts in Gujarat. This is one of the few books which bring out social conflicts based on caste and religion in backward districts of Gujarat where political parties made use for their leadership positions. Gujarat Pogrom-2002 raises a fundamental question that “has every citizen of India a constitutional right to live or this fundamental right to life is at the whims and mercy of other minority/majority group”.

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IX. Software: Release of **SYSTAT version 12.2**

SYSTAT, a proprietary product from the **Cranes® Group of Companies**, integrates both basic and advanced statistical tools with dazzling accompanying graphics. Release of the new **SYSTAT 12.2**: With the new and vastly improved **SYSTAT 12.2** have all the statistical techniques you need – from elementary to advanced – **SYSTAT 12.2** has added plenty of new features: Mixed Model Analysis, Partial Least-Squares, Response Surface Optimization, more Robust Regression procedures, more probability distributions, new Cluster Analysis algorithms, and much more. The graphics are lot more interactive, whereby one can customize any aspect of the graph just the way you want it, using a single dialog. For details: www.systat.com or e-mail to: samir.bhatia@cranessoftware.com

X. BUT WHY?

*One young college go-getter asked his/her social scientist following two questions: Can you explain by clicking “comment” button given below **this** news letter:*

- 1. Consanguineous marriages are not encouraged in the family, but why?*
- 2. Managers are born but not made, but why?*

Thanks are due to Dr.K.E.Vaidyanathan, Dr.U.V.Somayajulu, Dr. N. Audinarayana, Dr. Rajaratnam Abel, Dr Subhadra Iyengar, Dr. D. Balaiah and Dr. P. K. B. Nayar for their contribution to this News Letter