



Centre for Urban Studies
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda
Vadodara-390002, Gujarat India
cus@msubaroda.ac.in /9427348719/7984703814
Accredited Grade 'A' by NAAC



CUS/MSUB/2021-22/01

Date: 18/09/21

SUBJECT: CUS write-up (one-page)

Centre for Urban Studies is an autonomous body created by MOU between the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India and University of Leicester, UK through **British Council Knowledge Economy Partnership 2014 scheme**. Its logo showcases urban sprawl across time period of Vadodara. The scope of study ranges from local to global & emerging research methodologies are within GLocal approaches and multi-disciplinarity as per National Education Policy-2020. As an administrative unit, it befalls within Faculty of Arts vide S.R. No.11 dated 26-06-2015.

VISION

- Research and teaching of the urban past, present and future; study of urban history, global cities, civic identities and historic conservation (tangible & intangible)
- Establish and strengthen the urban scholarship on South Asia, the cooperation of regional and national agencies, the engagement of policy-makers, and attracting visiting fellows to deliver path-breaking research on urbanization, urban culture, conservation and the sustainability of the built environment.

Objective:

- The consequences of urbanization : the most pressing concerns in contemporary South Asia is the central idea of the Centre.
- Evolve as an enduring strategic initiative to promote academic and professional awareness and scholarship.
- Core research will focus on urban heritage, history, culture, conservation, planning and sustainability in Vadodara, the Gujarat region, India, and South Asia, **core disciplines being Archaeology, Architecture, Languages, Environmental Sciences, Geography, History, Museology, Art History, History of Science & Technology.**
- Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Commerce, Faculty of Family & Community Sciences, Faculty of Fine Arts, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Social Work, Faculty of Technology & Engineering: Centre for Urban Studies wishes to extend its association to all existing academic departments, centres and institutes at the MSUB.
- To analyse the phenomena that contribute to urban studies, the Centre avails expertise at our University, and other institutions in India and abroad through research affiliates from University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Aligarh Muslim University; University of Leicester, UK; University of Vanderbilt, USA; Macquarie University, Australia; CNRS-France; Max-Weber Centre, Germany; University of Toronto, Canada; AIIS, ISID, University of Pennsylvania, Johns Hopkins University, SOAS, Wellcome Trust, British Council , & c. As the Centre for Urban Studies matures it will extend its international co-operation in India, Asia, Europe & North America
- Between 2015 and 2025 the Centre will establish and strengthen the reputation of MSU as one of the primary hubs for urban scholarship on South Asia, seeking grant funding, the cooperation of regional and national agencies, the engagement of policy-makers, and attracting visiting fellows to deliver path-breaking research on urbanization, urban culture, conservation and the sustainability of the built environment.



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<i>Director:</i> Prof. (Dr.) Adhya Bharti Saxena
<i>Officiating Director- Oct. 2014-Dec. 2018</i>
<i>Director Jan. 2019-Dec. 2021</i>
<i>Dy. Director:</i> Dr. Ami Rawal (Geography)
March 2019
<i>Coordinators:</i>
<i>Prof. Sushmita Sen (Archaeology) May 2017</i>
Ms. Neha Sarwate (Architecture) March 2019
<i>Clerk: Mr. Tushar Kunte (Part-Time@ History & FoArts) Since May 2017-</i>

Research Affiliates

1.	Mr. Sudev Seth {University of Pennsylvania, USA} October, 2015- June, 2016 [Historian & Performing Art professional]
2.	Dr. Kalpana Swaminathan, Independent Scholar , Mumbai
3.	Dr. Ishrat Syed, Independent Scholar, Mumbai
4.	Dr. Misha- Mintz Roth {Johns Hopkins University, USA} Dec. 2015 –Feb., 2016
5.	Dr. Malika Kammar {University of Leicester, UK} 27th Jan., - 28th Jan., 2016
6.	Dr. Monika Sharma {Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India} 27th May., - 30th June, 2016
7.	Ms. Pallavi Tiwari {Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh} 01 st Aug., - Dec., 2016
8.	Dr. Kate Boehme, a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at University of Leicester, U.K., March & April 2018 and August & September 2019
9.	Dr. Richard J. Butler, Lecturer in the Historic Built Environment, Centre for Urban History, University of Leicester, U.K., between 4 th January and 28 th February 2019
10.	Dr. Sara Keller, CNRS-France & Max-Weber Centre , Germany from September, 2019-March 2021
11.	Ms. Sweta Banerjee, University of Toronto, Canada since October 2018 till Dec., 2019
12.	Journalist Fatma Alooh, Zanzibar, Tanzania 12 th Feb., 2019
13.	Dr. Kakoli Sen, Independent Scholar from Kolkata, 2019-2020
14.	Prof. Radhika Seshan, Historian from Pune University, 2019-2021
15.	Arc. J B Khadkiwala, Delhi School of Planning & Architecture, Delhi, 2019-2021
16.	Dr. Ami Rawal (Department of Geography, Faculty of Science) MSU , 2019-2021
17.	Dr. Nirmal Kumar, Historian from Delhi University, , 2019-2021
18.	Dr. Sandesha Rayapa, Linguistic Empowerment Cell, JNU-Delhi, 2019-2021



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Events since inception:

- “*Futures Past: The City in Gujarat*” Workshop 18th - 19th December, 2014 [MSU-Vadodara]
- “*Migration Stories: South Asian Histories and Cultures*” Exhibition cum Workshop 4th - 5th March, 2015 [University of Leicester, UK]
- “A City Under Siege: Three Pioneers, Three Prophets & Rambunctious Proletariat”, 16th - 20th Oct. 2015
- “Sacred Spaces, Community Halls and Urban Gentrifications in Colonial Nairobi, 1918-1938”, 12th Feb. 2016
- “Indian Culture: Knowledge Production and Conservation”, 15th June 2016
- Heritage Walk of MSUB campus, *Hazira & Ghadiyali Pol* in Vadodara City, 15th June 2016
- Urban Heritage Documentation Training Workshop in collaboration with INTACH-Vadodara, 29th-31st March 2019
- Seminar on “Urban Ecosystems”, 31st March 2019
- Symposium Seminar “Smart Future - Past: Layers & Legacies of Baroda's Heritage & Cultural Histories” 31st August to 12th September, 2019 and Exhibitions in collaboration with INTACH-Vadodara & Vadodara Municipal Corporation-"INTACH-The 35 Years Journey 1984-2019 " & "Robert Fellowes Chisholm Centennial Exhibition 2015"
- Student Intern Krutarth Bhatt's photographs exhibited in “Life Around Water” 1st July-1st August 2021 organised by KFG “Religion and Urbanity: Reciprocal Formations”, Max Weber Kolleg, Erfurt, Germany
- 15th International Youth Conference (Online) on “Transforming the World: Youth in Civic and Global Action”, 12th January 2022 in collaboration with Centre for Academic and Professional Development (CAPD), KAASH Foundation, Mumbai

Public Lectures :

- Expanding Cities: Challenges Ahead 19th Oct., 2016
- Step Wells of Vadodara & Conservation Techniques, 19th September, 2017 and later Step Wells of Gujarat on 28th April, 2018
- Urbanisation and Urban Studies: Study of Pune, 29th January, 2018
- Planning and Design for Smart Cities, 24th September, 2018
- Cartography for Social Sciences: Introduction & Concepts, 8th March, 2018
- Regional identity formation and emergence of small cinema: The Case of Bhojpuri Cinema, 23rd March, 2017
- State of Qawwali in India, 1st March, 2019
- Indigenous Language and its impact on Urban Studies 1st March 2019
- 3rd Oct, 2019 “Preserving Heritage in the Process of Development: A Case of Urban Heritage of Mumbai”
- 4th Oct. 2019 ‘Saraswati River and the Harappan Settlements in the Light of Recent Explorations’
- 19th Oct. 2019: Prof. Sila Tripathi, National Institute of Oceanography, Goa visited the Centre for Urban Studies and interacted with Director, Dy. Director and students
- 23rd November, 2019: "REPURPOSING THE PAST" by Kalpish Ratna

During pandemic period, Centre remained in contact with research affiliates across the world and have planned webinars and courses.

- Future Plans:



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Annual Lecture on Foundation Day of CUS 16th October [Resource Person from IIM-Ahmedabad / IISc Bengaluru OR University of Leicester, UK/University of Vanderbilt, USA/ Macquarie University, Australia]

03 Public Lectures by the Faculty Members of the M. S. University of Baroda between July 2021- March, 2022 (Faculty of Community Sciences; SSG Medical College & Faculty of Engineering and Technology)

03 Public Lectures by Research Affiliates within India and outside India

03 Public Lectures by the External Resources (National & International)

Webinar in collaboration with the External Resources (Venkateswara College, University of Delhi)

2-Day International National Seminar on **Waters in Asia/Cities and Towns in COVID-19 Times**

Photo Exhibition: "Banyan City Exhibition" based on field work by student interns

02 week Certificate Course in Preservation of Heritage in Urban Centres for 15 students

02 week Certificate Course in 'Baroda: Knowing Our City'

The two international workshops highlighted the synergies between the two universities and generated a number of ideas for future collaboration focusing on the themes of urban conservation, heritage and sustainability.

- It is this ambitious agenda that the new Centre for Urban Studies will pursue over the coming years.



1 Inauguration of Centre for Urban Studies, 2015



4 Foreign Scholars at CUS



3 MSU Fraternity at CUS Exhibition, 2015



2 Public Lecture Prof. Varsha Shirgaonkar, 2019



9 CUS & INTACH Exhibition 2019



8Public Lecture Dr. Kalpana Swaminathan, 2019



7CUS & INTACH Exhibition 2019








6Prof. Sila Tripathi in conversation with Dr. Ami Rawal




5CUS & INTACH Exhibition 2019

KAASH FOUNDATION MUMBAI

This
NATIONAL YOUTH DAY
Centre for Urban Studies,
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda,
Vadodara, Gujarat
and
KAASH Foundation's
Centre for Academic and Professional Development (CAPD)
are organizing its
15TH INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE
on
**Transforming the World:
Youth in Civic and Global Action**
Date: 12th January 2022
Time: 3:00PM- 6:00PM (IST)
The event will be live-streamed on KAASH Foundation's YouTube Channel
Kindly mail your abstracts on: youthconference22@gmail.com

Supported by: 
Vivekananda Kendra
Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu

To know more about us, kindly visit our websites:
www.kaashfoundation.org
www.kaashcapd.com