

Newsletter

ISSUE 04 - OCTOBER 2021

ABOUT US

Anthropos India Foundation (AIF) is a trust registered in Delhi in October 2011. 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 communities and it's people. Taking due consideration of the local knowledge and respecting the local culture and ecology, AIF has been conducting community-based research and, in its effort, has tried to inform the Policy initiatives too.

AIF website:
<https://anthroposindiafoundation.com>

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PREVIOUS WORK

- ✓ Dr. Kumkum Srivastava, Consultant, Society for Social Service (Retd. Associate Professor of History, Janaki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi), gave a lecture on **'Anthropology of Mental Health: Case Study of a Sufi Shrine'** (22nd May 2020). She foregrounded the stigma attached to it, how social conditions and context play a crucial role in compelling people to visit faith healers and indulge in various ritual healing processes. From an anthropological viewpoint she argued the merits of bringing together spiritual and medical interventions and elaborated how the suggested solution may prove more fruitful when dealing with mental health cases in a country like India.

[Click here for the lecture](#)

- ✓ Anthropos India Foundation (AIF), New Delhi, in collaboration with the Kala Nidhi Division of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi conducted a 'study in three North Eastern states namely, Sikkim, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh, to document the Folk and Tribal Healing Practices of the indigenous people'.

[Click here](#) to read the Executive summary of Folk and Tribal Healing Practices in Manipur by Dr Sunita Reddy.

SPSS COURSE:

AIF has successfully completed the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) Online course in two modules. Module 1 on 1st to 3rd October focused on the Basic and Analysis with SPSS and Module 2 on 8th to 10th October focused on Advanced Statistical Analysis with SPSS. The lectures were delivered by Dr. Rajesh Raushan, a Demographer, Public Health and Development Researcher. The events were attended by young researchers who were given hands-on training on SPSS.

E- RESOURCE CENTRE LAUNCH:

Anthropos India Foundation launched Anthropological E-resources on 27th October 2021, to mark the tenth anniversary of the foundation. This new initiative taken up by the foundation makes published works of all the anthropologists from across the country available at one place (<http://www.anthroposindiafoundation.com/e-resources.html>). This unique resource centre will further promote the discipline of Anthropology by bringing diverse academic contributions to one place to facilitate research and broaden the existing knowledge base for students and researchers.

The event began with the address of the founder member of AIF, Dr Sunita Reddy who shared the new website with the audience, which was followed by the inaugural talk on the visibility of the anthropology discipline, by Professor Abhijit Guha. His experiences over the years were crucial to underline how

anthropology could effectively provide analysis of both traditional concepts and contemporary problems. Other speakers including Shree Bhagwan Roy and Professor Shalini Mehta highlighted the need to bring the work of anthropologists to public attention and promote their contributions.

The interactive event through the active participation of eminent anthropologist was the first step towards the goal of permeating disciplinary boundaries and providing every individual with the resources to work towards a better future. Prof. Tanka Subba, Prof Gregory, Prof Deepak Behera and other notable senior anthropologists graced the online launch. This E-resource centre will serve as a hub for all of the valuable contributions made by Indian anthropologists. To access the E-resources, one can register and become life member for a nominal fee.

Event youtube link: https://youtu.be/EL9s8_kSdRU

ETHNOGRAPHY TRAINING WORKSHOP:

Anthropos India Foundation organised a two-day Ethnography Training workshop on 16-17 October 2021, to promote ethnographic methods. The event was attended by junior and senior scholars who had a chance to interact with faculty members and discuss about anthropological methods. The first session by Dr. Haripriya Narasimhan talked about the historical development of ethnographic tools to decipher the complex realities of media and its relation with society. Following this, Dr. Archana Kaushik introduced the participants to key elements of autoethnography and its effective implementation by sharing both her personal and professional experiences. Dr Aditya Deshbandu former faculty at IIM Indore introduced the participants to the virtual world, highlighting new techniques of Netnography and virtual ethnography. The insights from his research on video games enabled the participants to explore the new virtual reality with traditional tools of ethnography. The session by Professor Bhagwan Roy talked about digital ethnography for Tribal Development. All the sessions provided the participants with the opportunity to directly interact with the experts and seek guidance for their research work, thus fulfilling the motive of this short capacity-building workshop.

Feedback video link: <https://youtu.be/bJH5CIUPOQw>

BEING A TEACHER & BEING A STUDENT: A DIVINE RELATIONSHIP - A TALK SHOW SERIES

Anthropos India Foundation, in collaboration with DRTSPR Channel, has started a Talk Show Series to give a platform to young minds to discuss the challenges they face as youngsters. The aim to bring the children and experts from different fields to have an Open house to understand the issues children face these days. 5th September, a day to celebrate the divine relationship of a student and a teacher, was thought to be the best day to start the series.

The event started with the introductory speech by Dr Sunita Reddy who underlined the value of a teacher in moulding the future generation. It was followed by

the panel discussion that attracted a large audience from varied age groups to put forth their opinions and experiences. Children of different age groups- from class 8 to young adults from undergraduate courses in various universities across India shared their experiences. They emphasised how the values of empathy, compassion, determination, and relentless effort of their educators are pivotal in shaping their young minds and prepare them for future exploration.

Teachers and professors with remarkable expertise and contributions in the field of education covered a wide range of issues faced by children in a particular geographical and social milieu. They highlighted the need to develop an inclusive educational model to overcome pandemic-induced challenges.

Click here for the event link:

<https://youtu.be/ISF58JTJaRg>

IMAGE BEHIND THE FIROZABAD BANGLE

The Suhag Nagri i.e., Firozabad located in the western interiors of Uttar Pradesh, is well known for making and exporting bangles throughout India. The famous Sadar Bazar of Firozabad is well known for its colourful bangles. The city welcomes you with colourful glass bangles made of different designs. A huge market of bangles stretches throughout the city, waiting for the soft wrists of women who happily adorn these. But a closer look takes you to the other side of the story- one of poverty, scarcity, high temperatures and little nimble fingers who make these bangles.

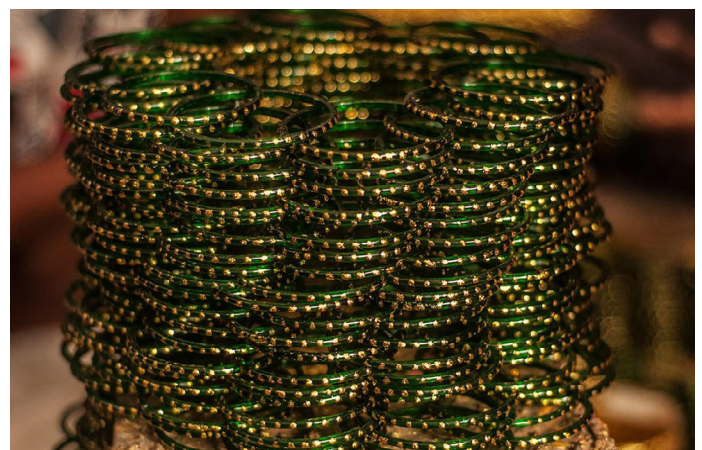
The journey begins with crushed discarded glass bottles in a 1500 - degree furnace turning it to molten silica. Removing molten red hot silica from the furnace and rolling it on iron rods is its next step. Manual segregation of rings and joining each piece of the bangle with hands makes them ready for glitter, zari and colorful threads. This additional element to plain bangles enhances its market value. The making of these glass bangles involves a tiresome task.

The industry mainly employs small children whose labour is required in different process. They work near the furnace in high temperatures for long hours, and often end up losing their eyesight. The dust rising from polishing the glass of bangles affects the eyes and the lungs. The working hours are too long and the payment given is very less. As these children are not aware of their rights, they are exploited. Many generations within a family have

not seen the world out of the street of these broken glasses. There are several reasons for these families which make them remain in this same circle of fire, sweat and cuts, poverty being the main. Despite the several laws and Acts like The Factories Act of 1948, The Mines Act of 1952, The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act of 1986, The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) of Children Act of 2000, Firozabad's streets are full of child labourers. The colourful bangles which bring a smile to a girl's face have a sad story behind them.

Sources:

[Bangle Industry of Firozabad: State of Workers and Child Labours](#)
[Firozabad - The City Of Glass Bangles Industry](#)



The Face Mask In COVID Times: A Sociomaterial Analysis by Deborah Lupton, Clare Southerton, Marianne Clark, Ash Watson

April 2021

The simple fabric face mask is a key agent in the fight against the global spread of COVID-19. However, beyond its role as a protective covering against coronavirus infection, the face mask is the bearer of powerful symbolic and political power and arouses intense emotions. Adopting an international perspective informed by social theory, *The Face Mask in COVID Times: A Sociomaterial Analysis* offers an intriguing and original investigation of the social, cultural and historical dimensions of face-masking as a practice in the age of COVID. The COVID crisis has generated novel forms of sociality and new ways of living and moving through space and time. In this new world, the face mask has become a significant object, positioned as one of the key ways people can protect themselves and others from infection with the coronavirus.

The role of the face mask in COVID times has been the subject of debate and dissension, arousing strong feelings. The historical and cultural contexts in which face masks against COVID contagion are worn (or not worn) are essential to consider. In some countries, such as Japan and other East Asian nations, face mask-wearing has a long tradition. Full or partial facial coverings, such as veiling, are common practice in regions like the Middle East. In many other countries, including most countries in the Global North, most people, beyond health care workers, have little or no experience of face masks. They have had to learn how to make sense of face masking as a protective practice and incorporate face masks into their everyday practices and routines. Face masking practices have become highly political.

Deborah Lupton, Clare Southerton,
Marianne Clark and Ash Watson

THE FACE MASK IN COVID TIMES

A SOCIOMATERIAL ANALYSIS



The USA has witnessed protests against face masks that rest on 'sovereign individualism', a notion highly specific to the contemporary political climate in that country. Meanwhile, celebrities and influencers have sought to advocate for face mask-wearing as part of their branding, while art makers, museums, designers and novelty fashion manufacturers have identified the opportunity to profit from this sudden new market. Face masks have become a fashion item and a medical device: both a way of signifying the wearer's individuality and beliefs and their ethical stance about the need to protect their own and others' health. *The Face Mask in COVID Times: A Sociomaterial Analysis* provides a short and accessible analysis of the sociomaterial dimensions of the face mask in the age of COVID-19. The book presents seven short chapters and an epilogue.

Source: <https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110723717/html?lang=en>

JOB ALERTS

List of Central Universities Recruiting Faculty Posts including Assistant Professors:

- Central University of Gujarat – 68 Faculty Posts – 29 October 2021
- Central University of Rajasthan -13 Faculty Posts – 31 October 2021
- University of Allahabad – 597 Faculty Posts- 27 October 2021
- Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya Wardha-18 Faculty Posts
- University of Delhi – 251 Assistant Professors – 20 October 2021.
- Central University of Haryana – 94 Faculty Posts – 10 October 2021 (After Date Extension)
- Mizoram University -61 Faculty Posts- 13 October 2021
- Central University of Punjab -86 Faculty Posts- 21 October 2021
- Guru Ghasidas University Bilaspur – 112 Faculty Posts – Rolling Advertisement

<https://skilloutlook.com/govt-jobs/opportunities-for-phd-and-net-holders-as-nine-central-universities-recruiting-1300-faculty-posts>

We realize that there is no centralized resource centre for the Anthropological works of Indian Anthropologists, where a scholar can look for publications- articles, papers and books. Thus, AIF has developed an anthropological e-resource centre hosted at the AIF website- www.anthroposindiafoundation.com

Given your valuable contribution to anthropological discourse in India, we would be glad if you can share

your publication to be uploaded in the AIF E-resource centre, which will benefit all the researchers from India and abroad interested in various fields of the discipline.

Hope you will share your publications with us. Do let us know if you have any questions or queries.

Anthropological Facts

- 📌 Tamil (Thamizh) is the oldest living language.
Source: <https://www.holidify.com/pages/oldest-languages-of-world-365.html>
- 📌 The wedding canopy is an integral part of both Hindu and Jewish weddings. It's called a 'Mandap' in Hinduism and a 'Chuppah' in Judaism.
Source: www.linandjirsa.com/mandap-indian-wedding-tradition/
- 📌 At 5,300 years old, famous iceman Otzi has the world's oldest tattoos.
Source: <https://www.si.edu/stories/ancient-ink-iceman-otzi-has-worlds-oldest-tattoos>
- 📌 Humans and giraffes have the same no of bones in their necks.
Source: <https://www.clevelandzoosociety.org/z/2020/06/19/truth-or-tall-tale-little-known-facts-about-giraffe-in-the-wild>

Get involved & Support Us

- ★ **Promote Anthropological work**
- share your work- blogs, documentaries, videos, podcasts, photographs
- ★ **Can intern with us**
- ★ **Collaborate with us**
Can collaborate with us in research, workshops, digital magazine
- ★ **Volunteer**
- ★ **Fund the activities**

Anthropos India Foundation



AIF Life Membership

You can now register with us to become a Life member of Anthropos India Foundation for a nominal fee of Rs 1000 and by filling the google form. The life members will be receiving our Newsletter, research study summaries conducted by AIF, alerts for Upcoming Courses, Workshops & seminars and job alerts. You can have access to our newly created E-resource Centre which is a one-stop destination where you can find research articles by eminent anthropologists in one place.

[Click Here](#) to Register

Bank details for Online Banking:

Name: Anthropos India Foundation
A/C No.: 912010012235653
Bank: AXIS BANK, Vasant Kunj Branch, New Delhi
IFSC Code: UTIB0000119