

Report Field Trip to Nirankal, Bethoda

The scheduled field trip was held on 20 - 21 October 2022 at Nirankal village to visit the Vanarmare community, situated near Gawliwada Bethoda Ponda, Goa. The team of faculty and students of Women's Studies programme reached the venue at 11.00 a.m at Village Panchayat Betoda- Nirankal and met with the Sarpanch and other ward Members. Matters concerning the Vanarmare community were discussed with panchayat members and students were able to understand the prevailing social tensions and relations between the different communities residing in this Panchayat area. Facilities that were made available to the Vanarmare community was also discussed. The team then visited the sub-health centre located in the panchayat building. It was noticed that a doctor visited the sub-health centre once a week and for any other medical needs people in the village have to travel to Ponda.

At 12.30, the team reached the Gananath English High School which had provided us with a Classroom which doubled up as accommodation for the team during the trip. After lunch, the team visited the Vanarmare community at 2.30 p.m. It was noticed that all families of the Vanarmare community lived in huts and there was no proper road to reach the settlement. There are 17 households and a population of 142 in this settlement that are considered as General Category. The team met the community leader Mr Gopal Pawar and interacted with women and children. Various rapport-building activities were conducted with women and children Vanarmare community, such as dia painting, drawing, and rangoli making, which were planned by WS students. These activities were carried out in a shed located at the entrance of the community. Heavy showers and thunder, temporarily interrupted activities but they were resumed soon after the rains subsided. There was a small celebration with sweets and lighting of dias that were painted by women and children.

WS students and faculty visited all hutments to understand the living conditions of the Vanarmare community. Social Mapping of the community was conducted by WS students along with women from the Vanarmare community.

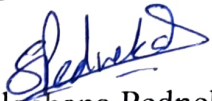
The team went back to school lodging at 6.30 p.m. From 7.30 pm to 9.00 p.m. Dr Sachin Tendulkar briefed students and faculty about challenges he had encountered while working for the betterment of this community. Dr. Sachin has vast experience working with the Vanarmare community for their economic, social and political empowerment. He has been instrumental in getting identity cards for them. Interaction with him was useful to understand the problems and lives of the Vanarmare community. The learnings from the first day's visit and a plan of action for the visit on the next day were discussed by WS faculty and students post dinner.

On 21 October 2022, the team and left the school to revisit the community at 9.00 a.m after breakfast. Students continued with the Social Mapping exercise, It was decided to gather



understand the status and needs of the community. Mr. Gopal Pawar discussed and briefed the team on the various daily concerns and challenges the community is experiencing. The WS team also interacted with Mr. Dashrath from Samvedna who conducts educational activities and health and hygiene programmes for children and women on a regular basis. The team left the community at 12.30 p.m., had lunch at the school and headed back to Goa University at 2.00 p.m.

Field trip presentations by students of their experiences and learnings were scheduled on Monday 31 October 22 at 11.30 to 1.30 p.m.


Sulochana Pednekar

Programme Director, WS


Prof. Shaila Desouza

Dean, MPSLGPP



Photograph 1 Interaction with Panchayat Members



Photograph 2 Drawing with Kids of Vanarmare community



Photograph 3 Social Mapping with women from Vanarmare community



Photograph 4 Social Mapping with women from Vanarmare community

Shadrika

Shankar



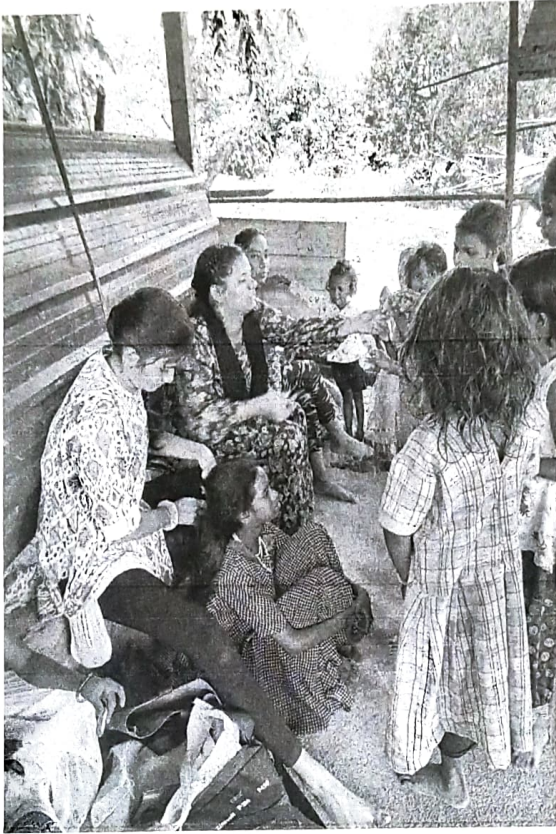
Photograph 5 Lighting of Dias with Vanarmare community



Photograph 6 Visiting homes in the Vanarmare community settlement

Heidi Dy

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Photograph 7 WS Students with Vanarmare children



Photograph 8 Interaction with Dr. Sachin Tendulkar

Sachin @X

Sachin Tendulkar