

# **A Profile of Tribal Research Centre (TRC)**

## **St. Xavier's College, Ranchi**

**Dr. Fr. Alexius Ekka, SJ**  
**Director**

### **Introduction**

St. Xavier's College, Ranchi being an autonomous and minority institution for higher learning, decided to start the Tribal Research Centre (TRC) as a private enterprise in 2017. It works on the promotion of 5 tribal languages: Mundari, Santhali, Kurukh, Kharia and Ho. These are also called *Adivasi* / Indigenous Peoples languages. In this profile the word "Tribe" is used meaning the *Adivasi* / Indigenous Peoples languages mostly spoken in central India. The profile of TRC describes below the following: (1) Brief history of the centre, (2) Aims and Objectives, (3) Organizational Structure, (4) Profile of the Personnel, (5) Roles and responsibilities, (6) Association with other institutions and organizations and (7) Future prospects. Appendix -1 gives a list of Publications of TRC.

### **I. Brief History**

Ever since St. Xavier's College, Ranchi obtained autonomy in 2005, it made a remarkable progress in academics along with outstanding results of the students. Moreover, St. Xavier's College being a minority institution of higher learning and run by the Ranchi Jesuit Society, it wanted to work in tune with the global mandate received from the Jesuit Higher Education Secretariat in Rome to promote the indigenous languages and cultures all over the world. Consequently, in 2017 the then Principal of the College Dr. Fr. Nicholas Tete, SJ in consultation with the Ranchi Province Jesuit Higher Education Commission and the approval of the Governing Body of Xaviers Ranchi started the Tribal Research Centre in the newly constructed building accommodating a gym, the computer lab and the Bulcke Research Centre. The publications of the tribal magazines in the five languages started under the overall supervision of the Principal. In the last four years after its inception, the centre has regularly published the tribal magazines in five languages besides the annual tribal wall calendar and has been instrumental in the sale and distribution of other books on tribal affairs as described below.

### **II. Aims and Objectives**

Following are the overall aims and objectives of the TRC for the promotion of tribal languages and cultures as far as practicable and in collaboration with persons, institutions and organizations on the similar objectives:

1. To engage in research on tribal languages and cultures as well as viz. Mundari, Santhali, Kurukh, Kharia and Ho languages and publish the findings and outcome;
2. To publish 2 magazines annually in each of the five tribal / *adivasi* / indigenous people's languages including the wall calendar for the promotion of these languages;
3. To put the oral tribal literature in written form for record and learning;
4. To publish important old manuscripts on tribal matters that are on the verge of being lost;
5. To collect and publish the vanishing tribal folklores, proverbs, riddles and anecdotes including songs and customary practices;
6. To engage in research on tribal matters and issues relating to their knowledge systems, health and medicinal practices, governance and administration, livelihood patterns and ecology and sustainability of life to mention a few;

7. To develop a good library on tribal matters and make it accessible to researchers, students and aspirants of UPSC/JPSC examinations;
8. To facilitate in providing the learning materials of tribal languages to the students wherever practicable in Primary, Secondary, Graduate and Post Graduate levels;
9. To facilitate in providing the course content for tribal languages in St. Xavier's College, Ranchi;
10. To engage in the promotion of rights and privileges of the Scheduled Tribes / *Adivasis* endowed by the Constitution of India and by the Declarations of the United Nations for the world's indigenous peoples in the context of India particularly of Jharkhand;
11. To bring about awareness on the significance of tribal languages and cultures among the tribal and non-tribal people as regards their richness and uniqueness through its publications, conferences and workshops as feasible, especially in collaboration with institutions and organizations promoting the tribal cause;
12. To coordinate with the Tribal Research Institute (TRI) and the Tribal and Regional Languages (TRL) Department of Ranchi University.

### III. Organizational Structure

The Tribal Research Centre is under the overall control of the Principal of St. Xavier's College. For its day-to-day management, the Chairman of Governing Body of Xaviers Ranchi has appointed a Prof. In-Charge who functions as the Director of the centre. Under his supervision there are five Researchers – one each for Mundari, Santhali, Kurukh, Kharia and Ho languages. Coordinating with them is an Office Assistant and a graphics designer for the TRC.

#### The Organizational Chart

Principal  
 Prof. In-Charge cum Director  
 Five Languages Researchers  
 Office Assistant  
 Graphics Designer

### IV. Profile of the Personnel

Following is the chart of the Profile of the Personnel in the Tribal Research Centre of St. Xavier's College, Ranchi at the time of joining.

#### **Brief Profile of the Personnel In Tribal Research Centre**

S N	Name	Designation	Qualification	Work Experience	Publications
1	Dr. Fr. Alexius Ekka, SJ	Director	PG: XIIS 1982  M. Phil TIIS 1993  Ph. D	1. Asst Director, XIIS 1986-1990 2. Research Fellow, ISI Delhi 1994-2003 3. Director Research, XIIS 2003-2009 4. Director, XIIS 2009-2019 5. Director, XIDAS	Books – 25 Papers – 30 Articles – 20 Project Studies – 10

			JNU 1997	2019-2021 6. Secretary, JEMAI 2008-2017	
2	Dr. Krishna Chandra Tudu	Researcher Santhali Language	PG R Univ 1980  Ph. D R Univ 1999	1. Lecturer, TRL, Ran. Univ. 1982-1992 2. Reader, TRL, Ran. Univ. 1993-2017, Ran. Univ. 3. Involved with Government Institutes in 31 of them	Books – 23 Edited Journals – 4 Translated Books – 3 Articles – 54
3	Dr. Pradip Kr. Bodra	Researcher Ho Language	MA R Univ 1999  NET UGC 2000  Ph. D Degree 2013 Course Work 2017	1. Teaching in the Dept. of TRL in Ho from 2012-2016	Books – 3 Edited Journals – 3
4	Dr. Tarkeleng Kullu	Researcher Kharia Language	Ph. D	1. Assistant Program Officer in Jharkhand Siksha Parijoya from 2003 – 2017 in Doranda & Simdega	Books – 4 Articles – 2
5	Dr. Lalima Kujur	Researcher Kurukh Language	Ph. D	1. Academic experience of being an informant for 15 days to a visiting scholar from Japan on Kurukh Lexicography in 2003, 2004, 2005 2. Resource Person on Kurukh language structure under the scheme of Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore on the Online project “Language Information Service (LIS) – India” for one week each in 2003, 2004, 2005	Articles – 3
6	Dr. Khatir Hemrom	Researcher Mundari Language	Ph. D	1. Teaching during Rajiv Gandhi Fellowship from 2008 – 2013 2. Town Mapping Survey in	Articles – 7

				Ranchi by the Central Govt. for six months in 2010 3. Chief Executive Officer in Munda Yuvak Sangh from 2009 – 2013	
7	Ms. Prema Tigga	Office Assistant	MA R Univ 2009 B. Ed SXC 2011	1. Lecturer in B. Ed. at SXC for 6 months in 2016 2. Probationary Officer in United Bank of India from 2013 – 2016	
8	Mr. Vishal Horo	Graphics Designer	I.A. JAC GCR 2006 Marine Engg. DG Shipping Govt. India 2009	1 year of experience in Graphics Designing in Education Department, Govt. of Jharkhand, MDI Building Project Bhwan Dhurwa From Nov. 2015-Jan. 2017	

## V. Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of the Researchers and Staff of the TRC are mentioned below tentatively, since it is in its infancy and its personnel are learning its work by doing; hence the list is not exhaustive. Similarly, explicit works and responsibilities will be taken up as the needs arise. The Roles and Responsibilities of the Director, Researchers and the Office Staff of TRC are as follows:

### A) The Director

- (i) He is overall in-charge of the Tribal Research Centre.
- (ii) He apprises the Principal of the works of the Centre and consults him regarding various activities and programmes of the Centre.
- (iii) He guides and gives suggestions to the Researchers in their works where necessary.
- (iv) He monitors the various activities of the Centre.
- (v) He coordinates with other local, national and international institutions and organizations committed to the tribal cause in the promotion of tribal languages and cultures as well as the rights and privileges of the tribal people.

### B) The Researchers

- (i) Research & publication of the bi-annual magazines in the respective tribal languages;
- (ii) Research and publication of the combined magazine of the five languages;

- (iii) Going to the field for data collection and awareness building among tribal people regarding the importance of their mother tongue;
- (iv) Publication of the Annual Wall Calendar in each of the five languages;
- (v) Building up a library for each of the five languages;
- (vi) Guiding the students of BA and MA mainly of St. Xavier's College, Ranchi doing studies in tribal languages and those doing research for M. Phil and Ph. D coming from various universities on tribal languages, culture and literature;
- (vii) Being available for the works of the parent body – St. Xavier's College, Ranchi;
- (viii) Engaging in the study and research on tribal matters as sponsored by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs Govt. of India and of the Govt. of Jharkhand;
- (ix) Coordinating with the Tribal and Regional Languages (TRL) Department of Ranchi University in curriculum design, setting of question papers and evaluation of answer books and
- (x) Coordinating with All India Radio (*Akashvani*) in the promotion of tribal languages.

### C) The Office Staff

#### (i) Office Assistant

- To provide secretarial services to the Director;
- To maintain accounts regarding publications;
- To draw the minutes of the meetings of the Centre;
- To maintain records of publications of the Centre
- To provide assistance to the Researchers in the typing of their works and
- To coordinate in the maintenance of equipments and facilities of the centre.

#### (ii) Graphics Designer

- To give proper layout to the articles and to design the magazines including the annual wall calendar;
- To supplement in typing work of the researchers;
- To look after the printing and publication of the magazines and the annual wall calendar and
- To provide assistance to the Director in computer related works.

### VI. Association with Other Institutions and Organizations

Following is a short description of the association of TRC with other institutions and organizations working on matters of tribal people's affairs and concerns. The nature of the association has been consultancy, board membership and participation in activities in the nascent years of the TRC. These are as follows:

SN	Name of the Institution / Organization	Person Associated	Nature of Work
1.	TRL, Department of Ranchi University	Dr. K.C. Tudu	Senate Member, Ranchi University, Examiner in TRL Setting question papers, Ph. D Guide & selection interview in TRL Expert in Santhali literature

2.	Ranchi Radio Station & <i>Doordarshan</i>	Dr. Pradip Kr. Bodra	News Reader in Ho & TV debate in Ho
3.	Ram Dayal Munda Adivasi Sangrahalaya	Dr. Pradip Kr. Bodra	Publishing articles in Ho

## VII. Future Prospects

The growth and progress of the TRC has been quite steady since its inception. It is expected that in the coming days and months there will be a comprehensive workshop for setting of the vision-mission, aims and objectives and strategies of the Centre for its greater effectiveness. It is also expected that in the near future the TRC would become a hub of indigenous knowledge creation and dissemination especially for St. Xavier's College, Ranchi and the tribal society at large. Many other dimensions of its resourcefulness would need to be spelt out and harnessed in the overall promotion of tribal languages, cultures and the ethos in the indigenous peoples' philosophy of life.

In the last few days TRC has established good contacts with the Tribal Desk of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI) and the Tribal Studies Unit of the Indian Social Institute, New Delhi through their respective Directors, Departmental Heads and Professionals for mutual collaboration in research and the field based action. There was a briefing on 23<sup>rd</sup> October by the Delhi team to the TRC Professionals on the forthcoming four-day workshop in Jharkhand on New Tribal Policy supported by the Govt. of Jharkhand in December 2021. There was also exchange of views and ideas on joint research on tribal languages and culture. Many more contacts and collaborations are expected in the coming days to make the TRC vibrant and resourceful.

## Appendix – 1 Publications of the TRC

### प्रकाशित पत्रिकाएँ एवं पुस्तकें

#### I. पत्रिकाएँ

	शीर्षक	भाग	अंक	वर्ष
■ संधाली	मारसाल	1	1	जुलाई–दिसम्बर 2018
		2	2	जनवरी–जून 2018
		3	3	जुलाई–दिसम्बर 2018
		4	4	जनवरी–जून 2019
		5	5	जुलाई–दिसम्बर 2019
		6–7	6–7	जनवरी–दिसम्बर 2020
		8	8	जनवरी–जून 2021

■ मुंडारी	एयोन	1	1	जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2017
		2	2	जनवरी-जून 2018
		3	3	जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2018
		4	4	जनवरी-जून 2019
		5	5	जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2019
		6-7	6-7	जनवरी-दिसम्बर 2020
		8	8	जनवरी-जून 2021
		■ खड़िया	तुजलोड	1
2	2			जनवरी-जून 2018
3	3			जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2018
4	4			जनवरी-जून 2019
5	5			जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2019
6-7	6-7			जनवरी-दिसम्बर 2020
8	8			जनवरी-जून 2021
■ हो	सरजोम			1
		2	2	जनवरी-जून 2018
		3	3	जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2018
		4	4	जनवरी-जून 2019
		5	5	जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2019
		6-7	6-7	जनवरी-दिसम्बर 2020
		8	8	जनवरी-जून 2021
		■ कुडुख	चोन्हा अंयग	1
2	2			जनवरी-जून 2018
3	3			जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2018
4	4			जनवरी-जून 2019
5	5			जुलाई-दिसम्बर 2019
6-7	6-7			जनवरी-दिसम्बर 2020
8	8			जनवरी-जून 2021

## II. संयुक्त पत्रिकाएँ

शीर्षक	भाग	अंक	वर्ष
1. आदिवासी शोध पत्रिका	1	1	2018
2. आदिवासी शोध पत्रिका	2	2	2019
3. आदिवासी शोध पत्रिका	3	3	2020
4. आदिवासी शोध पत्रिका	4	4	2021

## III. अंग्रेजी पत्रिका

Title	volume	number	Year
1- Xavier Research Journal 2018	1	1	Jan-Apr
2- Xavier Research Journal 2018	1	2	May-Aug
3- Xavier Research Journal 2019	2	1	Jan-June
4- Journal of Xavier Research Centre 2019	2	2	July-Dec
5- Journal of Xavier Research Centre	3	1&2	Dec 2020

## IV. Books for Sale & Distribution

1. S.C. Roy (1937), *The Kharias*, Vol. I, Man in India Office, Ranchi.
2. S.C. Roy (1937), *The Kharias*, Vol. II, Man in India Office, Ranchi.
3. Barla, Emmanuel, SJ, (2020), *Scenic Biru*, Xavier Publications, Ranchi.
4. टेटे निकोलस ये.स. एवं सिन्हा रविनन्दन (२०१८) अनुवादक, *खड़िया समाज* भाग १, प्रकाशक जेवियर पब्लिकेशन राँची, [*The Kharias* by Sharat Chandra Roy (1937). Man in India Office, Ranchi]
5. टेटे निकोलस ये.स. एवं सिन्हा रविनन्दन (२०१८) अनुवादक, *खड़िया समाज* भाग २, प्रकाशक जेवियर पब्लिकेशन राँची, [*The Kharias* by Sharat Chandra Roy (1937). Man in India Office, Ranchi]
6. तिर्की अगापित, बाखला इम्मानुएल एवं कुजूर तोबियस (2020 द्वितीय संस्करण)  
*कुडुख-हिन्दी-कोष* प्रकाशक जेवियर पब्लिकेशन राँची