



Department of Elementary Education – Academic festival

The Department of Elementary Education organised a workshop on '*Studying Schools: Ethnographic Challenges and Methodological Concerns*' on 27th March, 2021. Renowned educationists and researchers were invited as speakers for the workshop. The key note speaker, Prof. Padma Sarangapani from TISS, Mumbai shared her reflections on school ethnography. Dr. Anuradha Sharma from JMC, Delhi spoke about 'Understanding formation of social identity in schools. Dr. Bishnu Mishra, NIEPA, Delhi shared his experiences of ethnography of rural alternative schools and its challenges and possibilities and Ms. Linda Luiz Therese from St. Theresa's college, Kerala discussed the pitfalls and possibilities of ethnography as a method to study education. Almost 100 students, research scholars and faculty members attended the workshop. Each session was followed by detailed discussion with the speaker. The speakers shared nuanced experiences of conducting research in school settings and gave important heuristics for researchers to tackle the complexities of the research field. The participants actively participated in the Q & A session. The workshop was conducted in the virtual mode. The session was also streamed live on the youtube channel of the department.

The keynote speaker, Prof. Padma Sarangapani gave a self-reflective talk on conducting an ethnography where she shared her displeasure on ethnography becoming more about the researcher than the researched in the name of being reflective. Dr. Anuradha Sharma discussed the idea of school as a social site and children's formation of social identities in schools. Her presentation was divided into three sections namely- school as a social site of construction of students' identities and within it, using ethnography as a research tool, personal insights about the school research experience and methodological issues related to conceptualization of identities and to the tool of ethnography. Dr Bishnu Mishra gave a reflective talk based on the ethnographic fieldwork that he had done at a community-participation school in the Alwar district, Rajasthan.

This workshop was a small step towards understanding the complexities and challenges of ethnographic research in education. The issues highlighted in this workshop can be explored further to enrich our understanding of ethnographic research.



Keynote Speaker: Prof. Padma Sarangapani, TISS

Panelist: Dr. Bishnu Mishra, NIEPA

Panelist: Ms. Linda Luiz, St. Teresa's College

GLIMPSES OF WORKSHOP ON 'STUDYING SCHOOLS: ETHNOGRAPHIC CHALLENGES AND METHODOLOGICAL CONCERNS' 27 MARCH, 2021

Presesntation by Panelists

An Overview

- School as a social site of construction of students' identities and Ethnography as a research tool
- Some insights from my school-research experience
- Methodological issues related to conceptualizing identities and the tool of ethnography

TRANSLATING CAPITALS INTO THE FIELD

From addressing the contributions of higher education in Kerala via networks of gender through institutional, organized conceptualizations for instance, of the professional context within the stipulated curriculum, it appears, a dis/empowerment. The ensuing study attempts to