

Staffan Lindberg's and Lars Eklund's contact journey to East and North East India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal, November–December 2005

Purpose of our contact journey

The purpose of our contact journey is to spread information about SASNET and higher institutions of learning in Sweden in order to promote researcher cooperation and student exchange. We are planning to visit a great number of universities and institutes and have asked our contact persons to arrange meeting with members of all faculties who may be interested in this type of exchange.

In planning our journey we have relied upon researchers who we have already met and interacted with. One important aim is to deepen our relations with these persons for possible future collaboration, visiting scholarships, guest lecture tours, etc.



During our meetings we focus on those institutions within the SASNET network in Sweden, which are most interesting for the audience. As for students, we will inform them about the various possibilities for masters and PHD studies in Sweden.

Planned itinerary:

Friday 18 November:

Departure from Copenhagen Airport 07.15 to Frankfurt, and onwards to Kolkata via Muscat by Gulf Air.

Saturday 19 November:

Arrival Kolkata Airport 08.30.

Staying privately, c/o Munshi, 48, Tala Park Avenue, Kolkata-37, ph: 0091-33 255 69 149

Resting day.

Sunday 20 November:

Kolkata.

Lunch at 48, Tala Park Avenue, with Ms Swapna Bhattacharya, Head of department, Dept. of South and Southeast Asian Studies, Calcutta University. She took part in the 18th ECMSAS conference arranged by SASNET in Lund in July 2004, and has since then assisted SASNET in finding contacts in Kolkata, and frequently helped Swedish researchers and students coming to Kolkata.

Dinner with Mr. Ajit Roy, eminent veteran journalist and political analyst, writing for the Swedish magazine SYDASIEN in every issue since 1982. In Bidhan Nagar (Salt Lake).

Monday 21 November:

Kolkata.

11.00 Meeting with the Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University, the eminent economist Prof. Asis Banerjee; and the Pro Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Prof. Suranjan Das (also an eminent historian) All arrangements by Ms. Bhattacharya.

Visiting departments and meeting researchers at Calcutta University. Among them:

The Dept. of History. Involved in a formal collaboration with Uppsala University's Dept. of History and Dept. of Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology (contact person: Gunnel Cederlöf). Professor Arun Bandopadhyay, Dean of Dept. of History, and Uppsala project coordinator.

16.00 Staffan lecture at the Asiatic Society. 1, Park Street. Invited by its General Secretary Ramakanta Chakrabarty. Theme for lecture: "25 years of change in and around the Cauvery, South India".

After the lecture invited to the Governor of West Bengal, Mr. Gopal Gandhi (formerly Indian Ambassador to Norway), at Raj Bhawan.

Night train from Sealdah Station (Darjeeling Mail), departure 22.05

Tuesday 22 November:

Arrival New Jalpaiguri Railway Station (NJP) at 08.40. Local transport to Siliguri.

Visit North Bengal University. 11.30–13.30 Meeting with researchers and students. Invited by Chandanashis Laha, Dept. of English, participant holding a SASNET scholarship in the 18th ECMSAS conference arranged by SASNET in Lund in July 2004.

Onwards train journey with the Jodhpur-Guwahati Express, departure from NJP at 15.20

Arrival Guwahati 23.45. Stay at Landmark Hotel at B. Barooah Road

Wednesday 23 November:

Guwahati. Morning visit to the Kamakhya Durga temple outside Guwahati.

12.30: Professor M.P. Bezbaruah of Gauhati University (GU) arranges an interactive session with us, in which his colleagues and research scholars will participate. Gauhati University was the first university established in North East India (in 1947). Contact provided by Abu Nasar Saied Ahmed, OKD Institute.

14.30. From Gauhati University proceed to Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati, 10 km outside the city. Contact person: Dr Chandan Mohanty. Collaboration project with GARG, the Groundwater Arsenic Research Group at the Royal Institute of Technology, KTH (in the Department of Land and Water Resources Engineering, contact person: Prof. Prosun Bhattacharya). Two Swedish students from Uppsala University (but supervised by P.B), Gustav and Daniel are carrying out their MFS thesis work on groundwater arsenic contamination during the Fall 2005.

Thursday 24 November:

Visit to the Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development in Guwahati. Contact person: Director Abu Nasar Saied Ahmed. One of the 27 prestigious institutions funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). 11.30 Meeting with the faculty members and scholars of the Institute.

Afternoon car to Shillong, capital of neighbouring state of Meghalaya, 3,5 hours journey. Accommodation in the University Guest House.

Friday 25 November:

Shillong.

Visit to North Eastern Hill University (NEHU). Meeting with faculty members and students. Contact persons: Prof. C. Nunthara, Dean, School of Social Sciences, and Tanka B Subba, Prof. of Anthropology, and Dean of the Social Science Faculty at NEHU in Shillong. Prof Subba has a long-standing collaboration with Dr. Beppe Karlsson at Uppsala University(also NCI Director).

Return to Guwahati in the evening, and overnight stay at Landmark Hotel.

Saturday 26 November:

Train from Guwahati to Cooch Behar, West Bengal by New Jalpaiguri bound North East Express, departure from Guwahati 9.00. Arrives Cooch Behar 13.55. From Cooch Behar approximately two hours journey by car to Jaigaon/Phuntsholing (border to Bhutan), passing through Dooars tea district. Accompanied by Dr. S.Samanta from North Bengal University, Siliguri, who will meet us at Cooch Behar railway station.

Cross the border to Bhutan. Visas will be delivered to us at the border. Hotel in Phuntsholing.

Sunday 27 November:

Eight hours journey by hired car to Thimphu (capital of Bhutan). Hotel in Thimphu.

All arrangements for the stay in Bhutan made by Dr. Karma Galay, Centre for Bhutan studies (CBS) in Langjophakha, Thimphu. Contacts established through Prof. George van Driem, Himalayan Languages Project (TCZCA), Leiden University, and Dr. Rajesh Kharat, Reader in Politics, University of Mumbai.

Monday 28 November:

Thimphu.

- Visit the Centre for Bhutan Studies.
- Visit the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB), established in 2003, consisting of a number of previously independent institutions, including some located in Thimphu: The Royal Institute of Management; National Institute of Traditional Medicine (NITM), and the Royal Institute of Health Sciences (RIHS). Meeting with Dasho Zangley Dukpa, Vice Chancellor of RUB (contact established through Ms. Phintso Choeden, Research Director of RUB).
- Meeting with officials at the Ministry of Education in Thimphu.

Tuesday 29 November:

More visits and meetings in Thimphu. If time permits meet Mr Karma Tshering from the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, and Mr. Karma Gelay from Druk Heritage Consultancy. They are currently participants in a Sida-funded course on Conservation of Buildings arranged by Lund University, and visited Sweden in October 2005.

Other possible institutions to visit: The National Institute of Education, and the Centre for Education Research and Development.

In the afternoon travel by car to Paro. Hotel in Paro.

Wednesday 30 November:

Flight by Druk Air, Paro-Kathmandu, 09.30

Arrival Kathmandu 10.15. Stay at Boudhanath Guest House at Boudha, Kathmandu (telephone numbers +977 1 4478187 & 4479746)

Visit Tribhuvan University. Contact person: Prof. T N Dhakal, Campus Chief of Public Administration Campus, and member of SASNET's South Asian Reference Group. Meeting with the Vice Chancellor of Tribhuvan University.

Visit Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies (CNAS), research centre connected to Tribhuvan University. Executive Director Prof. Nirmal Tuladhar (introduced to us via Lok Bhattarai, PhD candidate participating as a SASNET scholarship holder in the 18th ECMSAS conference in Lund in July 2004).

Thursday 1 December:

Visit the research institution Social Science Baha (SSB), Himal Association, meeting the Director, Mr. Hari Sharma, or Chairman, Dr. Rajendra Pradhan. SSB organised a conference on Ethnicity in Nepal, in Kathmandu in September 2005, in collaboration with Tribhuvan University and Bielefeld University, Germany. Contact person: Ajaya Mali, Programme Manager.

After lunch visit to Bhaktapur, hosted by the architect Ram Govind Shrestha (participant in the Sida-funded course on Conservation of Buildings arranged by Lund University, visiting Sweden in October 2005), and Narendra Raj Shrestha, Head of Culture, Heritage and Tourism Department, Kathmandu Metropolitan City Office. They will show us the conservation works carried out. The consultant architect Linda Shakya will also plan for visits to different conservation sites in the Kathmandu Valley.

18-20 Invited to Rupa Dongol's reception party of wedding ceremony at Kismis Party Palace, Paropakar Marg, Kathmandu. Rupa Dongol is also an architect that participated in the Sida-funded course on Conservation of Buildings arranged by Lund University, visiting Sweden in October 2005.

Friday 2 December:

Visit Dr. Dinesh Raj Manandhar, Development Network, collaborating on research and education with Prof. William Hogland, Dept. of Technology, University of Kalmar (a project for which they have applied for a SASNET planning grant), and jointly organising Kathmandu conference on Solid Waste Management in the Developing Countries, to be held in January 2006.

Saturday 3 December:

Flight by Biman Bangladesh Airlines Kathmandu-Dhaka, 15.45

Arrival Dhaka at 17.15. Stay at ADD HARMONY guest house, House # 137, Road # 13, Block E, Banani.

Hosted in Dhaka by Dr. Rita Afsar, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, and member of SASNET's South Asian Reference Group. Dr. Afsar is involved in research collaboration with several Swedish colleagues, among them Dr. Alia Ahmad, Dept. of Economics, Lund University. They convened a panel together at the 18th ECMSAS conference organised by SASNET in Lund in July 2004. Lars and Staffan visited BIDS during their contact journey to Dhaka in 2002 and met a large number of researchers there (see <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/dhakmeet2.html>).

Sunday 4 December:

Morning: Visit Dhaka University (DU), established in 1921. Lars and Staffan also visited DU at their contact journey in 2002, but then the visit was limited to the Faculty of Social Sciences, and meeting staff from the departments of Sociology and Political Science only (see <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/bangmeet.html>, and <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/dhakmeet2.html>).

Visit the Dept. of Chemistry. Contact persons: Professors M Mosihuzzaman, Nilufar Nahar, and Altaf Hussein. They have all completed their PhD's in Sweden, and are involved in research collaboration with the Dept. of Chemistry at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU. It is a strong research institution, for many years supported by the International Science Programme (ISP) at Uppsala University, through Dr. Malin Åkerblom (also a member of SASNET's reference group on

Planning grants). Ongoing research project deals with Chemical and Biological studies of Medicinal plants. Prof. Mosihuzzaman is also involved in creating a Third World network for research on antidiabetic plants.

Also visit the Dept. of Geology, involved in research collaboration and Linnaeus Palme exchange projects with the Dept. of Land and Water Resources Engineering (including the Groundwater Arsenic Research Group, GARG), at Royal Institute of Technology, KTH (Prof. Prosun Bhattacharya). Contact person at Dhaka University: Prof. Kazi Matin Ahmed

Lunch with Professor Mosihuzzaman.

Afternoon: Dr. Rita Afsar arranging for visits to other departments at Dhaka University, and a revisit to the renowned Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

Host at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Dhaka University: Prof. Nazrul Islam, Dept. of Sociology (contact through Staffan).

Department of Islamic History and Culture. Contacts through Leif Stenberg, Lund University.

Evening: Dinner with Dr. Mushtaque Chowdhury, Dean of James P. Grant School of Public Health (also known as BRAC School of Public Health) which currently is offering its first Masters programme in Public Health, in collaboration with Karolinska Institutet, Uppsala University and Umeå University.

He is also Bangladeshi team leader of the PHILL project (Primary Health-Care in Later Life: improving services in Bangladesh and Vietnam) run by a Swedish-British-Bangladeshi-Vietnamese research consortium, funded by the European Commission. The Swedish partner consists of the Division of Geriatric Epidemiology, Department of NEUROTEC (Clinical Neuroscience, Occupational Therapy and Elderly Care Research); Karolinska Institutet, contact person Dr Zarina Kabir. In Bangladesh the research is carried out at the Research and Evaluation Division, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC); the ICDDR,B (*see below, under Monday 5 Dec.*), and the Centre for Health and Population Research. An International Conference on "Mainstreaming Ageing in Health Systems and Rural Development" will be held in Dhaka 28–30 November 2005, just before our arrival in the country. See conference web page, <http://www.phillproject.net/events.htm>.

Monday 5 December:

Morning: Visit Jahangirnagar University, in Savar, 32 km outside Dhaka. Inaugurated in 1971. Invited by Asst Prof. Bashir Ahmed, Dept. of Government and Politics, who has arranged for a meeting with the Vice-Chancellor Professor Mustahidur Rahman and the university faculty. Bashir Ahmed is currently completing a Masters programme at the Centre for East and Southeast Asian Studies, Lund University, but we will be hosted by his colleagues at Jahangirnagar University.

(A visit was also planned to Gono Bishwabidyalay University (also in Savar), involved in research collaboration and Linnaeus Palme exchange projects with the Department of Applied Information Technology (2IT) at KTH School of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Campus IT University in Kista, contact person: Dr. Mannan Mridha. Students from the latter department are offered possibilities to do field work on Biomedical Engineering and Telemedicine, with the help of Minor Field Studies (MFS) grants. Students from the KTH School of Information and Communication Technology in Kista have also written exam papers on studies carried out in Bangladesh, e.g. on developing hand-held measuring instruments to test pollution in water, and on the prerequisites for implementing telemedicine in the Bangladeshi countryside. The visit is however cancelled.

After lunch return to Dhaka.

Afternoon, up to 17.00: Visit Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation in Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders, BIRDEM (and the Health Care Development Project, HCDP, of the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh). Contact person: Prof. Liaquat Ali, renowned biochemist supported by the International Science Programme of Uppsala University, through Dr. Malin

Åkerblom. Involved in research collaboration with the Dept. of Medical Cell Biology, Uppsala University.

Evening: Proceed to the Centre for Cultural Development, set up by Prof. Liaquat Ali as a side activity to his work at BIRDEM. Staffan and Lars invited for a musical evening and buffet dinner (with food prepared in the cafeteria of the Centre). Till late evening.

Tuesday 6 December:

Staffan proceeds to Rajshahi by Biman flight 10.30, arrive Rajshahi 12.10.

Visit to Rajshahi University. Contact person: Prof. Raquib Ahmed, Dept. of Geography and Environmental Studies, and Prof. Kazi Tobarak Hossain, Dept. of Sociology (known to Abdullah Al Mamun, Lund University). Lars and Staffan met Prof. Ahmed in Dhaka in 2002 and then gave us an invitation to visit Rajshahi. Ahmed has had contacts with the Dept. of Human and Economic Geography at Göteborg University (through Anders Närman and Peter Pilesjö).

Outside Rajshahi is the village Tanapara, connected to the work of the Swedish NGO The Swallows since the 1970's. If time permits Staffan will visit Tanapara and meet the project workers there. The undergraduate course students from Österlen folk high school in Tomelilla every year ends up their South Asian field work trip with one week stay in Tanapara. Contact established through Birgitta Göransson, long time official for the The Swallows, with head quarters in Lund, and now a member of SASNET's board.

Lars proceeds to Sylhet by GMG Airlines flight 11.30, arrives Sylhet 12.15.

Wednesday 7 December:

Staffan returns to Dhaka by Biman flight at 11.30 from Rajshahi (13.10 in Dhaka).

Visit to the Swedish Embassy, Ambassador Börje Mattson at 15.30 (not yet confirmed).

Lars visits Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) in Sylhet. Contacts through Professor Sarif Masud, currently working in El Paso, Texas..

Return flight from Sylhet at 15.15, arrives Dhaka at 16.00.

Visit Viveka Risberg, Swedish journalist residing in Dhaka, with husband working for Save the Children.

Thursday 8 December:

Visit the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). What popularly used to be known as the Cholera Hospital in Bangladesh, has grown into an international health research institution. ICDDR,B has expanded its activities to address some of the most critical global health needs and is therefore now becoming well-known as ICDDR,B: Centre for Health and Population Research (the Centre). In collaboration with partners from academic and research institutions throughout the world, the Centre conducts research, training and extension activities as well as programme-based activities. Several Swedish universities are involved in collaboration projects with ICDDR,B (e.g. the Division of Bacteriology, Lund University; the Division of International Maternal and Child Health (IMCH), Uppsala University; the Division of Metals and Health, Karolinska Institutet; and the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Linköping University). Main contact person: Prof. Lars-Åke Persson, Uppsala University, who has worked at ICDDR,B for four years as manager for its Research division on Public health. At ICDDR,B: Dr Marge Koblinsky, Director, Public Health Division.

Evening: Dinner hosted by Dr. Rita Afsar in her residence in Dhaka.

Friday 9 December:

Flight by GMG Airlines Dhaka-Chittagong, departure: 11.40. Arrives Chittagong at 12.30.

Picked up at airport and stay at Hotel Tower Inn, booked by Green Channel Tour Operators.

Saturday 10 December:

Morning: Visit Chittagong University. Contact person: Prof. Anupam Sen and (not confirmed) Prof. Imam Ali, Dept. of Sociology. The latter known to Abdullah Al Mamun, Lund University.

Transport for full day.

In the evening travel to Cox's Bazar, 125 km south of Chittagong. Accommodation in Hotel Media.

Sunday 11 December:

Resting day in the seaside resort Cox's Bazar. Hired car and tourist guide arranged for by Green Channel Tour Operators.

Return to Chittagong by evening. Hotel Tower Inn.

Monday 12 December:

Flight by GMG Airlines Chittagong-Kolkata, departure: 08.30. Transport to the airport arranged for. Arrival in Kolkata 09.15

Again staying with the Munshi family at 48, Tala Park Avenue.

After lunch: Visit to the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) at Barackpore Trunk Road in Kolkata. Founded in 1931, has had an enormous importance for India's planning after independence, through its legendary Director Mahalanobis. Contact person: Dr. V. Ramachandran (vkrms@vsnl.net; 9433076540), known to Staffan. Contact arranged by Dr. Swapna Bhattacharya.

Tuesday 13 December:

10.00: Visit to the Centre for Built Environment, contact person: Prof. Santosh Ghosh. The Centre has been involved in research collaboration with the Department of Housing Development and Management; Lund Institute of Technology. Several students from Kolkata have taken part in the Sida-supported post-graduate courses in "Architecture, Energy & Environment – Tools for Climatic design (AEE)", and "Housing and Development and International Construction Management (HDM)" arranged in Lund.

(A visit to the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Kharagpur, the oldest of the seven prestigious IIT's (set up in 1951) created in India as centres of excellence in Science and Engineering, was originally planned for this day. IIT is however closed during this period for winter vacations. Our contact person at IIT, Prof. Subrata Chattopadhyay, Dept. of Architecture (who was a guest professor at Lund University in 2002) will most probably come to Kolkata instead.)

14.00 – 17.00 Seminar on "Changing face of South Asian cities, on society, culture and environment", organised by the Centre for Built Environment. Venue: Academy of Fine Arts. Expected audience, 50-60 persons, including architects, sociologists, economists, engineers, grassroot NGO activists etc., and Govt. officials and academicians. It will also be an occasion for a Lund Alumni meeting. Staffan give a lecture on "In Wet and Dry – 25 years of change in rural South India"

Wednesday 14 December:

Visit Jadavpur University (JU). Set up in 1955 in South Western part of Kolkata; known for its excellence in the fields of Science and Technology, but it also housing an Arts Faculty boasting many departments of special assistance, including English and Comparative Literature, and with India's only Dept. of Film Studies.

- Indian Institute of Chemical Biology at JU. Contact person: Dr. Rukhsana Chowdhury, involved in research project on "Effects of environmental stress on the production of cell surface proteins and of regulatory and virulence genes by gastrointestinal pathogens (*Helicobacter* species) and by Lactic Acid Bacteria with relevance for the pathogenesis of chronic infections as well as for applications in

the food industry” that received a SASNET planning grant in February 2005. The main partner in this project is the Department of Medical Microbiology, Dermatology and Infection, Lund University, through Torkel Wadström and Åsa Ljung.

- School of Environmental Studies at JU. Contact person: Dipankar Chakraborti, Director and Head of the School. Working on the issue of Arsenic Contamination in the Ganga-Meghna-Brahmaputra Plain, carrying out research in Bangladesh and West Bengal, in collaboration with GARG, the Groundwater Arsenic Research Group at the Royal Institute of Technology, KTH (in the Department of Land and Water Resources Engineering, contact person: Prof. Prosun Bhattacharya).
- The Adult and Continuing Education and Extension Centre at JU, contact person: Professor Asoke Bhattacharya. Since 1999 involved in an academic exchange with Göteborg University (the Grundtvig Institute, contact person: Ingrid Lomfors). Bhattacharya has been instrumental in establishing a Grundtvig Research Institute at Jadavpur university. There Grundtvig’s ideas and theories on education and democracy, and preventing social segregation through continued and adult education are applied. The faculty is also engaged in practical development work among the people of the South Parganas District of West Bengal, for which the faculty has been given the ”UNESCO Award for adult literacy”. The Grundtvig Institute is also engaged in cooperation with Ljungskile Folk High School. Every year during the period August–December Ljungskile runs a ”World course on Justice, Peace and Environment”, including a three weeks tour to north India.

Thursday 15 December:

10.00: Visit to the Dept. of South and Southeast Asian Studies, Calcutta University. Headed by Swapna Bhattacharya.

Afternoon: Staffan visits the Centre for Studies in the Social Sciences, CSSSC, at Patuli, south of Kolkata. Director Prof. Partha Chatterjee. CSSSC has a long relation of research collaboration with Roskilde University in Denmark, and has been involved in the Danida financed ENRECA programme that closed down only in 2004. Lars and Staffan visited CSSSC already in March 2002 during their previous contact journey touching upon Kolkata, see <http://www.sasnet.lu.se/kolkmeet.html> (note: the only other institution in Kolkata besides CSSSC they visited then was the Management Centre for Human Values at the Indian Institute of Management).

Lars travels by Air Sahara flight to Bhubaneshwar, departure 15.20. Arrives Bhubaneshwar, Orissa, at 16.15. Taken care of by Aswini Kumar Mishra, Administrative Officer, Orissa Central Pollution Control Board, and connected to Utkal University, besides being a panel convenor in the 18th ECMSAS conference arranged by SASNET in Lund in July 2004.

Staffan travels by night train to Patna (No. 3111 (Sealdah-Delhi (Lal Quila) Express), departure from Sealdah Station at 20.15.

Friday 16 December:

Lars attends a book release function at a Bhubaneshwar hotel, as a guest of honour, in the morning. The book, on Indian Dalit Literature, has been edited by Aswini Kumar Mishra and Jugal K Mishra, and incorporates papers presented in their panel on Dalit Literature at the 18th ECMSAS conference in Lund.

16.00 visit to Utkal University in Bhubaneshwar, established in 1943. Meeting with Vice-Chancellor Dr L. N Mishra.

Evening, meet Prof. Emeritus Lars Henrik Ekstand, School of Teacher Training, Malmö University, now living in Bhubaneshwar with his wife, Prof. Rita Ray, Dept. of Sociology, Utkal University. Invited to their house in Vani Vihar.

Staffan arrives Patna, Bihar, at 07.10. Visits Patna University and other research institutes. Host at Patna University: Professor Hetukar Jha, Dept. of Sociology.

Saturday 17 December:

Lars returns to Kolkata by Indian Airlines, departure from Bhubaneswar 13.40. Arrives Kolkata 14.35.

Staffan returns to Kolkata by Air Sahara flight, departure from Patna 14.25. Arrives Kolkata at 15.20

Contact journey completed. Lars stays on with his family in Kolkata (holiday) for another 3 weeks. Evening: Dinner at the residence of Dr. Swapna Bhattacharya.

Sunday 18 December:

Staffan travels Kolkata-Kochi (via Hyderabad) by Air Sahara flight (*paid privately, not included in the budget*), departure: 10.35. Arrives Kochi at 14.45. Stays with family (holiday for another 3 weeks), and then doing research field work in Tamil Nadu for another three weeks.

Wednesday 11 January 2006:

Lars travels from Kolkata Airport 10.00, for Muscat by Gulf Air. Arrives Muscat 13.20. 11 hours stop over in Muscat.

Thursday 12 January:

Lars: Departure Muscat at 00.20 by Gulf Air to Frankfurt. Onwards travel to Copenhagen by SAS. Arrives Copenhagen at 11.35.

Wednesday 22 January 2006:

Staffan travels from Chennai Airport 07.30, for Abu Dhabi, and onwards to London by Gulf Air. London-Copenhagen by Lufthansa at 20.05. Arrives Copenhagen at 22.55.

Updated by Lars Eklund and Staffan Lindberg, 16 November 2005