

Neera Desai
M. A. Ph. D.

Jai Kutir
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INDIA
Tel. : 430 5853

DATE 18th March
2002

Dear Sujata,

I hope you have received my E-mail. I am sending herewith the following:

- (i) Three photographs of Akshaya
- (ii) Whatever the details I know (and I have consulted Dr. Uday Mehta) of Akshaya's professional profile
- (iii) Some areas of studies of his Ph.D. students (more could be available from the dept)
- (iv) US312 - the issue which was dedicated to him - when some more personal insights into his personality are available

I am sorry I cannot give you immediately more information and I regret that how indifferent we have been to our CV. I personally do not have details of my own professional or personal history.

Thanks for everything with regards.
Yours Sincerely
Neera Desai.

Academic details of Dr. A. R. Desai

- 1943-44 Enrolled as Ph-D student - Initially for masters, but later on Dr. Ghurye accepted him for Ph-D - Social Background of Indian Nationalism. (SBIN)
- 1946 Publication of SBIN under the Sociology Series of the University of Bombay - Worked as Research Assistant of Prof Ghurye from 1944
- 1947 Joined Siddharth College, Mumbai as Lecturer Economics, Civics, Administration
- 1949 Resigned and took up ad hoc assignments
- 1950-51 Associated with Dr. Gardner Murphy and Prof. C. N. Vakil in the Project on Group Tensions in India.
- 1952-56 Joined Department of Sociology in the University of Bombay - as lecturer
- 1956-57 Went to Bhagalpur University to launch dept. of sociology at request of Prof Ghurye.
- 1960 Appointed Reader in B'bay University
- 1965 After the demise of Dr. K. M. Kapadia became Head of the Dept and later Professor.
- 1967 Co-organizer of Sociology Conference in Bombay -
- 1969 Successfully organized The Golden Jubilee

of the Dept of Sociology where in Prof Merton, Lazzeri Field, and all the top Sociologists from India participated in a week-long seminar on modernization

1975 Retired ~~in~~ from the dept, did not accept extension.

- After retirement from 1978-1990 he ~~was~~ was Visiting Professor in depts of Sociology at South Gujarat university Surat, Delhi Univ, Jaipur, Pune, Gauhati, Chandigarh, M.S. university Baramda.
- Gave Presidential - Memorial Lectures e.g- Indian Sociological Society, Gujarat Sociological Society, I.P. Desai Memorial, D.B. Mukherjee Memorial, Sanskrita University, Banarasa University, A.N. Sinha Institute Patna,
- National Fellowships - ICSSR, UGC, Madhya Bharat Award of best sociologist in 1992
- Ph D students belonging to various disciplines and concerns:
 - Dr Savur - friend
 - Uday Mehta - Impact of Govt Measures on ~~the~~ rural society
 - Pro Jha - Political Elites
 - Appu Nayar - Impact of Planning
 - D'Souza - Nationality dev. in Govt Society

Sharyu Solhatre - Nationality Dev in
Maharashtra.
Vishayale Purnhit - Culture
Gaokar - D. B.D.D Chawls.
Ramaswami - Matunga Labour Camp.
Indira Mungshi - Tribal land relations to
Denzil- + (Dahann)
Koppardekar Urbanization -

Above - 25 - 30 students - details could
be available from Dept.
Personal Details.

- Date of birth 16th April 1915 at Nadiad.
- Lost mother at about 11 yrs. of his age.
- one sister ten years younger to him.
- school education at various district towns of Baroda state as his father - well known author of Gujarati - Ramnath Vasantlal Desai - was officer in the govt.
- College education at Baroda, Surat & Bombay
- Came to Mumbai around 1934-35
- Associated with Students Federation, State People's Movement in his student days -
- Married to Neera D. Dhar in 1947
- one son Mihir - born in 1957
- Lost father in 1954
- Expired 12th Nov. 1994