



THE MOTHER'S SERVICE SOCIETY

PROGRAMME OF RESEARCH PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2023-24

1. FUTURE OF EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

- A. MSS is conducting a research project to evolve a new model for transdisciplinary, person-centered higher education that more effectively prepares youth for participation in the highly competitive work environment and increasingly complex social environment of the 21st century. The research involves development of methods to shift the emphasis from rote memorization to understanding and independent thinking, from abstract theory to contextualized knowledge, from passive to active pedagogy, from fragmented disciplinary to transdisciplinary perspectives, from competitive to cooperative learning environment, from repetitive to creative educational activities. This project includes development collaboration with World University Consortium (WUC) for development of a state-of-the-art generative AI learning platform for personalized, interactive learning systems that can be utilized for conventional classroom education, on-line education and life-long learning programs.
- B. The Society's Primrose School has been widely recognized as one of the most advanced institutions for childhood education in Pondicherry and one of the pioneers in early childhood education in India. MSS staff have been conducting extensive research on the education system needed for the 21st century to meet the challenges the world today, with especial focus on evolving new methods of pedagogy. The current paradigm is more lecture-centric and teacher-oriented. MSS staff, through new pedagogical methods, have been exploring how the 21st century needs new ways of teaching in which the teacher is merely the facilitator and how education should become more student-centered. To achieve this, smartboards were installed in all classes at the school to aid students' learning.
- C. MSS have been collaborating with SpellBee India on a program to introduce education for school-children on the main dimensions of human security, including health, food, nutrition, environment, and technology. The program was launched during the first quarter of 2024 and will be gradually expanded. The target is to reach 100,000 Indian students within the next 12-18 months and then extend the program to several million students and beyond.
- D. The MSS staff have devised a flashcard system tailored to the educational landscape in India, targeting school students aged 2 to 17. This system is designed to facilitate accelerated learning, ensure a balance between retention and practical application, and alleviate the stress associated with learning, thereby enhancing student performance across various stages and facets of education. It is being implemented in several schools across Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry.
- E. The MSS team is collaborating with other NGOs to cultivate a community that supports students and teachers in acquiring fundamental skills for utilizing Artificial Intelligence in educational settings. This initiative aims to foster responsible use of AI as a learning tool, while adhering to best practice policies, without necessitating substantial investment in costly hardware, software or technical resources.
- F. The sixth International Education Conference held on March 7-9, 2023 focused on Education for Human Security. This online conference was organized by MSS in cooperation with the WUC and the World Academy of Art & Science (WAAS) in partnership with UNESCO Bridges, SDSN Europe network of 500 universities, Black Sea Universities Network, Force for Good, London School of Economics, Arizona State University's Global Futures Laboratory, and others. This conference examined the relevance and applicability of the human security approach to different fields of higher education. It sought to generate awareness and initiate active discussion among educators and universities on the central importance of the Human Security Approach as an integral component of higher education.

- G. The MSS staff are assisting schools in establishing systems for alumni networks, providing career guidance, and identifying potential financial support resources for higher education.
- H. The MSS team assists schools that need financial support in identifying potential donors, accessing government support schemes, obtaining corporate assistance through CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) scheme, and leveraging support from NGOs.
- I. The MSS staff help schools equip with the tools to offer financial literacy lessons and implement "Earn While You Learn" programs, with the goal of preparing students for future entrepreneurial endeavours.
- J. MSS staff have been collaborating with schools, engaged students, and parents to develop a flash card system aimed at instilling values and spirituality in children. This system specifically imparts the principles of Sri Aurobindo's Integral Yoga. Through this innovative approach, MSS contributes to the holistic growth and character development of young learners.
- K. MSS Research Team:
 - Garry Jacobs – Project Coordinator – Introduction of AI in person-centered education, Human Security in school curriculum, leadership education for business and technology.
 - Janani Ramanathan – Project leader – Study of new methods of pedagogy in higher education
 - Thilagam Tholkapian – Innovative methods in Early Childhood Education
 - M. Chandrasekaran -- Online and offline education courses, grassroots level work and training
 - Vani Senthil – Flashcards research and coordination with the teachers
 - Vasugi Balaji – early childhood education
 - Leonid Shokh – Research on Educational methods for the 21st century.

2. LEADERSHIP IN POST-GRADUATE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

- A. In January 2024, MSS adopted a plan to establish a state-of-the-art business school (MIIMS) on its properties in Tamil Nadu to provide post-graduate leadership training in business and technology education. The objective of the project is to ensure that next generation leaders fully understand both the potential benefits and risks associated with the adoption of AI and related technologies and that they learn to identify specific areas in which these technologies can be utilized to address pressing social needs in India and abroad, such as modern agriculture, fin-tech, medical care, self-employment opportunities, medical and other fields of scientific research, and education.
- B. MIIMS is already reaching out to leading international experts and business schools to ensure that the quality of the curriculum and the teaching staff is on par with the best in the world. The project includes development of AI learning tools to make possible self-paced, customized, interactive learning by students which can be made available to students at very low cost compared with the high cost of business education that presently restricts access. The plan is also to develop a platform and set of world class online courses designed to expand entrepreneurial opportunities in business and technology management practices in India.
- C. MSS Research Team:
 - S.S. Sreejith – Project Director
 - Garry Jacobs – Curriculum development coordinator
 - M. Chandrasekaran -- Online and offline education courses, grassroots level work and training
 - Vidya Rangan – Educational Coordinator
 - Kanimozhi Sairaman – Learning system development

- Leonid Shokh – Curriculum research

3. **SELF EMPLOYMENT**

- A. In India, a significant proportion of the population lacks both awareness and vocational skills, which results in difficulty finding employment opportunities. In order to address this issue, MSS has been successfully providing vocational training programs to equip individuals with the necessary skills and awareness to secure employment. With over two decades of experience in facilitating income generation through computer-based work, MSS now embraces the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI). These programs empower individuals in their pursuit of self-employment without requiring significant upfront investment. This approach not only bridges skill gaps but also fosters economic independence and resilience within the community.
- B. Social media platforms such as Instagram and YouTube often harbor misleading information and advice. To address this issue, the MSS Research Team has established a group dedicated to cultivating responsible social media influencers. This initiative aims to ensure that influencers disseminate professionally researched and verified original content, thereby elevating the quality and reliability of information shared online.
- C. MSS Research Team: M. Chandrasekaran: Project leader and trainer

4. **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION FOR LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT**

- A. MSS staff have been researching on the process of entrepreneurship and business success to identify the social, psychological, technological and organization factors responsible for their success. MSS continues collaborating with the Global Institute for Integral Management Studies, Kochi, Kerala to develop a new curriculum for teaching principles of business management. GIIMS is now recognized as the number one LSCM educational institution in India and works in close collaboration with the Government of India Logistics Sector Skill Council (LSC). MSS staff continue to conduct training programs for GIIMS faculty.
- B. In 2018, MSS staff led GIIMS' revision of the traditional course curriculum prevalent in India by shifting from a subject to student-centered, values-based pedagogy that focuses on real world issues and examples. They arranged for collaboration with WUC and the Person-centered Approach Institute of Italy to promote more active interaction and involvement of students in the learning process. Within a few years since then, GIIMS has grown to become the largest, most successful LSCM institution in India in collaboration with WUC, USA, Logistics Sector Skill Council (LSC) and CII Logistics Council of the Government of India. MSS staff will continue to work closely with the Founder-CEO of GIIMS on a regular basis to enhance the relevance of school content and learning performance.
- C. MSS staff have started conducting research for a new book of business principles, management strategies and best management practices.
- D. MSS staff members are diligently engaged in the process of revising and updating previously authored books. Their objective is to infuse these literary works with current, contextually relevant examples that resonate with the present era. By doing so, they ensure that these timeless texts remain meaningful and applicable to today's readership.
- E. MSS Research Team:
 - Garry Jacobs – Project Director
 - M. Chandrasekaran—Project leader for revisiting old books

- Ranjani Ravi, Hariny Narayan, Vasugi Balaji – Editorial assistance for editing the books
- Janani Ramanathan—Curriculum designer for PG level course on business management
- Leo --- Research on companies and institutions that have been highly successful
- S. S. Sreejith and Ramesh Kumar –Faculty members

5. **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR HUMAN SECURITY**

- MSS staff participated in a panel discussion at the United Nations in New York on September 18, 2023 on “Technology Addressing Global Challenges”. The UN Secretary General’s Technology Envoy, Amandeep Singh Gill, was also part of the event.
- MSS staff met with the Assistant Director General of UNESCO, Gabriela Ramos, regarding implementation of UNESCO guidelines on global governance of artificial intelligence on 22 September 2023 in New York.
- Promoting India’s Fin-Tech Achievements to the World: In 2023, MSS staff worked with WAAS to conduct a special conference session at CES 2023 to highlight the remarkable achievements of India in the development and application of financial technologies to bring more than 500 million Indians into the formal banking system with three speakers representing Indian industry. An MSS partner, Force for Good, UK, approached GOI to release India’s Fin-Tech package for free distribution globally during a specially convened meeting at the UN in NY in Spring 2023. The seminar participants included MSS staff and Amandeep Singh Gill, Technology Envoy for the UN Secretary General.
- MSS team moderated a panel projecting India’s remarkable achievements in Fintech at the 2024 Consumer Electronics Show in January which included Amandeep Singh Gill, Technology Envoy for the UN Secretary General.
- MSS Research Team:
 - Garry Jacobs – project coordinator
 - M. Chandrasekaran- project leader and trainer
 - Ranjani Ravi, Hariny Narayan, Vasugi Balaji – Editorial assistance for the book
 - Chitra Krishnamoorthy – Research on conscious transformational leadership initiatives; Creation of the video on WAAS.

6. **ADVANCED AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM**

- MSS was founded as a rural development project in 1970 and its early years resulted in elevated the surrounding agrarian region from extreme poverty into one of the most prosperous regions of South Indian. One signal achievement was its introduction of banana cultivation in the area for the first time ever. Today the region surrounding the MSS agricultural project is one of the largest and most important in India.
- Three years ago. MSS introduced measures to radically elevate scientific farming practices on its model farm Mother Estates at Ramapuram, Cuddalore District. The adoption of satellite imaging, drone photography, advanced methods of intensive cashew cultivation, organic farming, micronutrients, tissue culture and drip irrigation are now serving as a model for imitation and adoption by other progressive farmers in the area.
- MSS Research Team:
 - SS Sreejith, ME Project Director

- N. Asokan, Beautyland Project Director

7. **FINANCIAL AWARENESS**

- MSS recognizes the critical impact of inflation on the value of earned money. Without prudent savings, inflation erodes the purchasing power of currency over time. To address this concern, MSS staff actively engage with the general public, imparting essential financial literacy skills with the support of financial and legal professionals. These efforts empower individuals to maximize their hard-earned income effectively. Specifically, MSS staff collaborate closely with Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), guiding them on prudent financial practices. This includes strategies for saving, investment in India, and wealth preservation. Additionally, NRIs receive valuable advice on contributing meaningfully to Indian society—whether through philanthropy, community initiatives, or other impactful avenues.
- MSS Research Team: M. Chandrasekaran: Project leader and trainer

8. **HUMAN SECURITY**

- For the past 18 months MSS has been collaborating with WAAS on the HS4A Global Campaign on Human Security for All in consultation with the United Nations Human Security Unit. The aim of the campaign is to promote a comprehensive, integrated approach to human security that encompasses peace, human rights, and sustainable development. MSS has been an active partner in this project.
- MSS staff delivered a keynote address at an International Conference “Human Security, Democracy and Economics: What’s next?” held on April 10, 17 and 24, 2023, highlighting the problems related to democracy and the economy in the present and the coming years.
- Human Security For All (HS4A) was the special theme of World Amateur Radio Day on April 18, 2023. HS4A is partnering with the IARU in a campaign to highlight the role of Amateur Radio in addressing the world’s most pressing human security needs. MSS staff is Executive Chairman of the HS4A project.
- MSS staff delivered a paper on human security at a conference on environmental awareness and impact at EarthX 2023 expo at Dallas, Texas on April 19-23, 2023.
- MSS staff participated in a panel discussion an address on emerging opportunities, challenges, risks and threats associated with rapid advancement and application of technological innovations, such as AI, digital communications, breakthroughs in the basic sciences, and global existential risks at a webinar on “Technology & Human Security” on May 17, 2023.
- MSS staff participated in a panel discussion an “Implementing Human Security: Methods & Tools”, on June 13, 2023 discussing Human Security as a preventive, participative approach to address threats to human lives, protect freedoms and enhance human fulfillment.
- MSS staff moderated a panel discussion of parliamentarians at a webinar on “Human Security and Parliament”, on June 27, 2023 co-organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) of 170 national parliaments and the Human Security For All campaign (HS4A) and co-organized a seminar for parliamentarians at the IPU general assembly in Geneva on March 25, 2024.
- MSS staff delivered an introductory address to a panel webinar discussion on “Fourth Global Thematic Webinar: Peace, Human Security and Sustainability for People and the Planet”, on September 7, 2023.
- MSS staff presented a Keynote address on Human Security for All at the conference Global Futures 23: Critical Actions for Global Transformational Change, September 19-21, 2023, in New York.

- J. The International Conference on “Artificial Intelligence and Human Security in the Black Sea Region” was held on September 23, 2023. MSS staff presented a paper online. The Conference was intended to offer a platform for dialogue and exchange of ideas between governmental agencies, Universities, NGOs and other various contributors from different disciplines.
- K. MSS staff participated in a panel at the World Peace Forum Barcelona 2023, Spain, on November 23-25, 2023 in a dialogue with Federico Mayor Zaragoza, Former Director-General of UNESCO and Bru Recolons, President of the Fundació Impulsa Talentum.
- L. MSS staff participated in the COP28 UN Climate Change Conference in Dubai, held from 30th Nov-12th Dec 2023. MSS staff highlighted the various challenges in implementing the 17 SDGs, particularly the challenge in communicating effectively, and the need for educating and equipping our youth to navigate misinformation and fake news.
- M. MSS staff represented the Human Security campaign at COP28 in Dubai on December 3, 2023 in the UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub sessions titled “Accelerating Green Innovation” and a panel on “Skills of the Future” organized by the Global Futures Lab and Cisco.
- N. MSS staff represented HS4A at the 2024 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas on Jan 9-12, 2024, the world's largest technology event, with more than 140,000 tech leaders from around the world. They moderated a panel discussion with the UN Secretary General's Special Technology Envoy Amandeep Singh Gill and Megan Lee, Chairwoman and CEO, Panasonic North America.
- O. MSS staff delivered an online video keynote for the 3rd Security, Science and Peace Conference 2024, on January 12, 2024 on Human Security co-organized by Pugwash, Croatia & WAAS.
- P. MSS has initiated an international project with the InterAcademy Panel of 150 national and regional universities for preparation of a statement on Human Security for global distribution. This statement now under preparation is to be released after endorsement by the majority of IAP members, as a way to reach out to society on a major issue that confronts it today and participate in discussions that can shape policy and decision making.
- Q. Publications: Two special issues of *Cadmus* were issued in 2023 support of the HS4A global campaign on Human Security for All launched in January 2023 by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security and the World Academy of Art and Science. MSS staff contributed to the journals and provided administrative and editorial assistance.
- Garry Jacobs, “Global Movement to Promote Human Security for All” *Cadmus Journal* Volume 5 Issue 1 March 2023 ([Link](#)) [1]
 - Ashok Natarajan, “Human Security, Individualism and Collectivism” *Cadmus Journal* Volume 5 Issue 1 March 2023 ([Link](#)) [2]
 - Janani Ramanathan and Garry Jacobs, “Education for Human Security Policy Brief,” *Cadmus Journal* Volume 5 Issue 2 August 2023 ([Link](#)) [3]
 - Garry Jacobs and Janani Ramanathan, “Paradigm Change to Human Security” *Cadmus Journal* Volume 5 Issue 2 August 2023 ([Link](#)) [4]
 - Ashok Natarajan, “Human Security – Multifaceted Phenomenon” *Cadmus Journal* Volume 5 Issue 2 August 2023 ([Link](#)) [5]
- R. MSS Research Team:
- Garry Jacobs – Project Coordinator

- Janani Ramanathan and Vasugi Balaji-- Collaboration with UNTFHS and GSI and other partner organizations.
- Vani Senthil and Chitra Krishnamoorthy – Research on Human Security measures and indicators and how the SDGs can contribute to achieving human security.
- Chitra Krishnamoorthy, Vani Senthil, Vasugi Balaji, Latha Chandrasekaran, Hariny Narayan and Ranjani Ravi – Human security special issues editorial work
- Latha Chandrasekaran – Agenda Scheduling and Organization of Conferences

9. TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- A. MSS staff planned, worked on and edited a video, an overview of events from the Manhattan Project in 1945 up to the launching of the HS4A global campaign on human security by UNTFHS and WAAS in 2023. Garry Jacobs, had a conversation with Charles Oppenheimer, the grandson of WAAS co-founder Robert Oppenheimer, bringing to light important insights regarding the revolutionary impact of events in 1945 on the world we live in today and in the future that is unfolding.
- B. MSS staff was part of a panel discussion, the 6th Annual Leaders on Purpose CEO Summit, on 18th September, which centered around the theme “Shared Planet, Shared Future, Shared Purpose” held as part of Climate Week in New York City. It brought together some of the world’s most accomplished thought leaders, visionary business leaders, multilateral figures, esteemed academics, and CEOs from around the globe to discuss the challenges and opportunities inherent in purpose-driven leadership.
- C. MSS staff was the Primary Editor of the book published by Cambridge Scholars UK in October 2023 entitled “Catalytic Strategies for Conscious Social Transformation: Leadership in Thought.”
- D. MSS staff participated as a panelist in the session on “Ascending to the Age of Planetary Consciousness” at the ERA Forum, online, October 18-20, 2023.
- E. MSS staff participated in an online panel on “Leadership for Learning” at the International Conference on Copernican Revolution in Higher Education, on November 23-25, 2023.
- F. MSS Research Team:
 - Chitra Krishnamoorthy – Research on conscious transformational leadership initiatives; Creation of the video on WAAS.

10. DAILY DISCUSSIONS: SRI AUROBINDO’S PHILOSOPHY AND YOGA

- A. Since April 2020, MSS staff have conducted online lectures daily presenting Sri Aurobindo’s writings, philosophy, and yoga, and their relevance to life today. Hundreds of papers and videos providing practical guidance are available on the MSS, MSS Research and Karmayogi.net websites.
- B. MSS Research Team:
 - N. Asokan – Author, Lecturer on practical application of Sri Aurobindo’s teaching for accomplishment
 - Garry Jacobs – Author, Lecturer on application of the spiritual teachings of Sri Aurobindo, The Mother and Shri Karmayogi.
 - Vidya Rangan -- Author, Lecturer on application of the spiritual teachings of Sri Aurobindo, The Mother and Shri Karmayogi.
 - M. Chandrasekaran -- Author, Lecturer on application of the spiritual teachings of Sri Aurobindo, The Mother and Shri Karmayogi.

- Chitra Krishnamoorthy and Hariny Narayan – Administrative assistance; video editing; hosting calls.

11. HUMAN CHARACTER, LIFE AND SOCIAL EVOLUTION IN LITERATURE

- A. The Society continued its research on social evolution and human character literature with the study of the works of Jane Austen and Anthony Trollope. Weekly meetings are conducted to discuss the character of Life.
- B. MSS Research Team:
- Janani Ramanathan – major responsibility for research on Jane Austen and her novel, developing content for the websites, editing of the commentary for publication, delivery of seminars and correspondence with English Literature faculty.
 - Vidya Rangan, Vani Senthil, Vasugi Balaji, and Hariny Narayan–Literary analysis of Victorian novels
 - M. Chandrasekaran – Sri Aurobindo’s contribution to, psychology and its relevance to life.

Annexure: Published Research Papers

SNO	Article title	Author	Publication details	URL
1	Global Movement to Promote Human Security for All	Garry Jacobs	March 2023 Volume 5 Issue 1 <i>Cadmus Journal</i>	https://www.cadmusjournal.org/files/pdfreprints/vol5issue1/A-Global-Movement-to-Promote-HS4A-GJacobs-Cadmus-V5-i1-Reprint.pdf
2	Human Security, Individualism and Collectivism	Ashok Natarajan	March 2023 Volume 5 Issue 1 <i>Cadmus Journal</i>	https://www.cadmusjournal.org/files/pdfreprints/vol5issue1/Human-Security-Individualism-Collectivism-ANatarajan-Cadmus-V5-I1-Reprint.pdf
3	Education for Human Security Policy Brief	Janani Ramanathan and Garry Jacobs	Volume 5 Issue 2 August 2023 <i>Cadmus Journal</i>	https://www.cadmusjournal.org/files/pdfreprints/vol5issue2/Education-for-HS-Policy-Brief-JRamanathan-GJacobs-Cadmus-V5-I2-Reprint.pdf
4	Paradigm Change to Human Security	Garry Jacobs and Janani Ramanathan	Volume 5 Issue 2 August 2023 <i>Cadmus Journal</i>	https://www.cadmusjournal.org/files/pdfreprints/vol5issue2/Paradigm-Change-to-HS-GJacobs-JRamanathan-Cadmus-V5-I2-Reprint.pdf
5	Human Security – Multifaceted Phenomenon	Ashok Natarajan	Volume 5 Issue 2 August 2023 <i>Cadmus Journal</i>	https://www.cadmusjournal.org/files/pdfreprints/vol5issue2/HS-Multifaceted-Phenomenon-ANatarajan-Cadmus-V5-I2-Reprint.pdf