CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Non-Gujarati is a term used to define the persons from outside Gujarat. They may be native of any other state of India. A variety of Non-Gujaratasis have been residing peacefully in the border region of India named Kachchh. Geographically Kachchh has not been blessed by Natural Resources as land over here is not appropriate for cultivation. But the contribution of the native people of Kachchh in making the place worth living has aptly been supported constantly by people from outside Gujarat. Non-resident Bengalis, Non-resident Keralites, Non-resident Punjabis, Non-resident Maharashtrians, etc. have been fulfilling the objective of the development of Kachchh from different point of views.

The Socio-Cultural sector of Kachchh has been enriched by the Non-Gujaratasis. After interviewing the various Non-Gujaratasis themselves and various NGOs run by them in Kachchh, one can arrive on a conclusion that their contribution has been helping to open a wide vision, a horizon to Kachchhi people who are often termed conventional and traditional. Class difference-religious rigidity is still available and prevailing in the society but Non-Gujaratasis have been working without preserving any class-discrimination or religious difference. Non-Gujaratasis’ humanity has provoked the native people and the present scene is different. The organizations like Veerayatan, Abhiyan, Arya Samaj, Hunnarshala have bent a lot to make Kachchh stand on its own feet after the ferocious attack of Earth Quake and Cyclone.

A non-governmental organization (NGO) is any non-profit, voluntary citizens’ group which is organized on a local, national or international level. Task-oriented and driven by people with a common interest, NGOs perform a variety of service and humanitarian functions, bring citizen concerns to Governments, advocate and monitor policies and encourage political participation through provision of information. Some are organized around specific issues, such as human rights, environment or health. They provide analysis and expertise, serve as early warning mechanisms and help monitor and implement international agreements. Their relationship with offices and agencies of the United Nations system differs depending on their goals, their venue.¹
The World Bank defines NGOs as “private organizations that pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, protect the environment, provide basic social services, or undertake community development” (Operational Directive 14.70). In wider usage, the term NGO can be applied to any non-profit organization which is independent from government. NGOs are typically value-based organizations which depend, in whole or in part, on charitable donations and voluntary service. Although the NGO sector has become increasingly professionalized over the last two decades, principles of altruism and voluntarism remain key defining characteristics.\(^2\)

Following the devastating earthquake on the 26th of January, 2001, Veerayatan, a Non-Gujarati organization from Bihar entered Kachchh, the remote desert region on the Northwestern border of the state of Gujarat. The earthquake resulted in a death toll of over 20,000 people and injuries affecting over 166,000. Many children were orphaned or were left with only one parent. In addition, 650,000 homes were damaged or destroyed, as well as countless numbers of businesses. For many, traditional means of livelihood were lost.

Veerayatan was among the first service organizations present to provide necessary relief and to help begin the process of redevelopment. In the first few weeks following the earthquake, Veerayatan helped to distribute relief materials to 12,326 families.

As a result of the earthquake, UNICEF reported that 1500 schools in area had been completely or partially destroyed. In the ensuing chaos, children were literally roaming the streets. Concerned with the ensuing problems of poverty and homelessness, as well as the possible emotional trauma resulting from intermittent schooling or the complete abandonment of education, Veerayatan began a series of welfare and education programs to care for affected children, women and adults.

Veerayatan’s initial help took the form of nine stopgap schools throughout Kachchh, established in February, 2001. These were temporary schools, where classes
were taught in tents. More than 150 teachers were recruited and employed locally, and children were provided with midday refreshments, study materials and transportation. In addition to these primary standard classes for children, vocational training courses were also taught for adolescents and adults. In all, more than 7000 students benefited from these attempts in the months following the earthquake.

These efforts proved to be enormously successful, so much so that on April 9, 2001, the New York Times—America’s leading newspaper—published an article describing Veerayatan as “the biggest, most honest and best organized private effort to provide stopgap schools for children in the state…of earthquake-torn Gujarat.”

Veerayatan went on to establish primary schools and vocational training centers throughout all of Kachchh. At that time, Veerayatan had a fully operational semi-permanent center in Bhuj, and was in the process of building permanent centers in Jakhania and Rudrani. As fourteen years have now passed since the earthquake and with a certain degree of stability returned to the region, the resources devoted to Veerayatan’s 17 vocational training centers have been redirected towards realizing the organization’s dream of creating quality educational institutions of all levels throughout Kachchh.

Veerayatan’s ultimate goal is to standardize a modern and top rate educational system throughout Kachchh, so that all students, regardless of caste, religion, and socio-economic status, can reap the limitless benefits of a first-class education and consequently experience both greater inclusion and society and a higher quality of life.

“Veerayatan is devoted to uplifting and empowering humanity through seva (humanitarianism), shiksha (education) and saddhana (inner development).”

The person behind this noble thinking is Acharya Chandanaji, a native of Bihar. Acharya Shri Chandanaji after taking Diksha at the age of 14, committed to a twelve year vow of silence to study Jain, Baudhaha and Vedik scriptures. She is a post graduate (Shastri)in Navy-Nyaya, and Sanskrit Vyakaran from Banaras University,
Darshanacharyain Jain philosophy from Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, Sahityaratna from Allahabad and Jain Siddhantacharya from Pathardi Board, has a profound understanding of scriptures.

Chandanaji Visiting The Earthquake Stricken Place Of Kachchh

During these twelve years of in-depth study and introspection, she realized, religion is not only meant to promise a better next life; religion is a powerful tool to beautify the present life. While studying various other faiths she realized the meaning and purpose of life and the beauty of different religions. She further more recognized the importance of educating the masses. Therefore, Veerayatan started its first school in 1973, in Rajgir-Bihar and went on creating and supporting the educational institutes. Because the total rural literacy rate in Bihar is still below 43.9%.
Veerayatan aims to support and enhance lives through quality education, vocational training to children, youth and women and health facilities to all without any discrimination. Veerayatan introduces the practicality of religion to the modern scientific world. With the model of service to humanity and purity of thoughts and action, it has created a social transformation in localities. With the firm conviction that generational poverty and problems associated with it of rural India can only be addressed through installation of vital value based education and vocational training centers, addiction free society, environmental protection and prosperity through dedicated labor. And that is why Veerayatan has committed to a very benevolent and much needed plan of building schools all over India.

Chandanaji At Veerayatan Vidyapith

Arya Samaj Gandhidham is headed by a Non-Gujarati, Vachonidhi Arya and which is a part of the worldwide organization having more than 8000 branches all over the world and is relentlessly active in social, educational, cultural and spiritual, fields. This is the first ISO 9001:2008 certified Arya Samaj in the world which shows their dedication to the work they have been doing.

They are working as NGO in India for Child Charity. Post the devastating Earthquake of 26th January 2001 they have started a Child Charity project namely
Jeevan Prabhat which is a home for the earthquake orphans and other underprivileged children. In Jeevan Prabhat they treat the children just like their own children at home and they have been rearing them totally free of cost without any distinction of Caste, Creed or Religion. They do not accept anything old or even leftovers for the children. The mission of Gandhidham Arya Samaj is to help Kachchhi people in every possible way which can be listed in detail:

- To arrange for the spread of Vedic Philosophy and for that to provide for recitation of Vedas and other Vedic ceremonies, lectures of philosophers from various fields, prayer and Yagna etc. for moral and spiritual advancement of general public.
- To establish and run educational institutions for promotion of education and knowledge among the children of Kachchh in general and Gandhidham in particular.
- To help deserving candidates by granting them refundable non-refundable scholarships including supply of medicines, books stipends and other incentives to study.
- To provide help to the needy, the destitute, the physically handicapped and poor without any distinction of caste, creed or colour and religion.
- To do any other act for the advancement of general public utility not involving any profit, without any distinction of caste, creed or colour and religion.
- The primary aim of the Arya Samaj Gandhidham is to do good for all, that is, promote physical, spiritual and social well-being.
- To help the people during natural calamities by way of rescue, relief and rehabilitation work. 

As a proof of outcome of the activities of Arya Samaj, one can take an example of Mundra and Gandhidham School. A government primary girls school in Mundra was totally demolished in the earthquake. They rebuilt an earthquake proof school at a cost of Rs. 25 Lac. Mundra is 65kms from Gandhidham and the General Secretary Shri Vachonidhi Arya used to go there every alternate day to supervise the construction and see to the quality of the workmanship. This school has 12 classrooms, library, assembly hall, play ground, staff room etc. With a view of
providing better education to the children of Gandhidham area, they have started “Dayanand Arya Vedic Public School” from 15th June 2009.

A School In Mundra Renovated By Arya Samaj Gandhidham

Gandhidham is a fast developing town. The population of Gandhidham is around 3.5 Lac, and the people of Gandhidham are from all parts of India i.e. Gandhidham is a multi cultural township. With Development have come various problems, Cleanliness being the main one.

Mr. Vish Sood who is an engineer and has settled in Canada since the past 40 years, once visited India and went to see the Tajmahal. He was surprised that this wonder of the world had fewer visitors than Eiffel Tower. Then when he looked around he saw that the surroundings were very dirty. Since then he has made it his mission to clean India. Recently he visited Jeevan Prabhat and when he saw that Gandhidham despite being a modern city was very dirty, he inspired the children of Jeevan Prabhat and cleaned up the surrounding area of Jeevan Prabhat. Arya Samaj had also joined hands with him and under his guidance has launched a “Clean
Gandhidham Drive. A rally was organized and flyers distributed to educate the people about the benefits of cleanliness.

Vachonidhi Arya Cleaning Gandhidham With The Children Of Arya Samaj

The Children Of Arya Samaj Gandhidham Cleaning The City Of Gandhidham
“When Kachchh was struck by a devastating earthquake on 26th January 2001. We wanted to do something for the society and hence we started Jeevan Prabhat for those children who had lost everything including their most valuable asset Parents. Jeevan Prabhat was set up with the intention to usher in a new dawn in the lives of these children so that they would no longer be orphans but Arya Samaj and the whole society would now be their parents, this is our motto and principal. We are proud to say that we have fulfilled the objective and targets which we had set when we started Jeevan Prabhat on the third day after the earthquake i.e. on 29th January 2001,” says the General Secretary Shri Vachonidhi Arya.
The Children Arya Samaj Gandhidham With The Then C.M. Of Gujarat Mr. Narendra Modi.

Another landmark achieved by Gandhidham Arya Samaj is a Vedik Sanskar Kendra as Vachonidhi Arya says,

"We have constructed a multi-utility complex in ward 10B/C Gandhidham, on a plot admetering 2700 Sq. yards, namely Vedic Sanskar Kendra at the cost of Rs. 1.5 Crore. The construction process was started at the hands of H.E.Sundar Singh Bhandari the Governor of Gujarat on 6/2/2000."

The frame of this multi-utility complex was already in place at the time of the earthquake and he felt proud in stating that this frame withstood the earthquake and all the columns and beams passed the ultrasound and other related tests. Among other sections this complex will have a library to provide all study material for IAS aspirants.
Vedic Sanskar Kendra Initiated In Gandhidham By Arya Samaj

Gandhidham Gurudwara :

Another remarkable religious and educational committee from Non-Gujaratis is Gandhidham Gurudwara. The Shri Guru Nanak Singh Sabha Gurudwara is located in Gandhidham, Near khanna Market & distance from Gandhidham Railway station & Bus station is Near about 1k.m. Gurudwara is open every day from 4 am till 9.30 pm. It welcomes people from all communities to come and join the Sangat and enjoy Kirtan and Langar.

The Gandhidham Gurudwara Of Sikh Samuday
“Truth Is High, Higher Still Is Truthful Living” is the motto of Guru Nanak Public School established in the welfare of native Kachchhi people by Gandhidham Sikh Samaj. It was in the year 1996; an idea was mooted by some members of Sikh Community of Gandhidham to start a School. As a result a trust, GURU NANAK EDUCATION SOCIETY was formed. Thus Guru Nanak Education Society with active financial support from Gurudwara Committee started Guru Nanak Public School in the year 1997. Guru Nanak Public School started its function with NURSURY & K.G. Section in Gandhidham Gurudwara Campus. Later with support and cooperation of society new school building was constructed at Ward-5/B, Adipur. Now this school imparts education to children from Nursery to Class-10. School is recognized by State Board (Govt. of Gujarat.) The school aims at all round development of the child in all spheres, physical, mental, moral and an integrated and harmonized growth of his/her personality.

Guru Nanak Public School Initiated By Gandhidham Gurudwara Committee

A variety of social organizations have always been ready to uplift the social level of the region. Kachchh was largely an agricultural district till 2001 but after that,
various industries came to be the backbone of Kachchh. It started its journey towards being the heart of industrial activities. The Industrial Sector of Kachchh was not developed before the Earth Quake, 2001. But after it, this sector progressed to its heights due to laborious & intellectual efforts of the Non-Gujaratis. A variety of Industries have looked forward to the Industrial upliftment of Kachchh. So the whole scene is different after disastrous 2001. The industries like Welspun Pvt. Ltd., Adani Power Plant, Man Industries have played a phenomenon role in the Industrial Development of Kachchh and are nothing but the Employment Hub in Kachchh and amazingly these industries are a kind of a gift to Kachchh from Non-Gujarati people.

The Welspun Pvt. Ltd. is just like a blessing to Kachchh as it has been working towards the Socio-Economic development of Kachchh since its inception. Mr. B.K. Goenka is the founder chairperson who is from Rajasthan. Welspun has also started a school in which a number of native people get quality education. Welspun India Ltd. is one of the top three home textile manufacturers globally and the largest home textile company in Asia. With a distribution network in 32 countries and manufacturing facilities in India, it is the largest exporters of home textile products from India. The Company was ranked 1st in the Top 15 Supplier Giants (USA) by Home Textiles Today Magazine, January 2013.10

Mr. B.K. Goenka
Ethical Business Conduct is given the highest priority at Welspun. They strictly follow and practice the principles of accountability, honesty and integrity in all aspects of our business and strictly comply with all applicable laws and legislations. They support and respect Human Rights within their sphere of influence and promote universal respect for fundamental freedoms - particularly those of their employees, the communities within which they operate and parties with whom they do business, without distinction as to ethnicity, origin, religion, gender, language or disability.

Employee Relations are also a key concern at Welspun. Maximum employment and economic opportunities are provided to the local communities, employees are treated fairly and with dignity and consideration for their goals and aspirations, diversity at the workplace is encouraged and embraced. Fair labour policies are practiced and all national and local laws of the countries and communities where they operate are followed.

“We are additionally committed to provide equal opportunity in all aspects of employment and will not engage in or tolerate unlawful workplace conduct, including discrimination, intimidation, or harassment”11, says Mr. Goenka.

Welspun Foundation for Health & Knowledge, chaired by Mrs. Dipali Goenka, is a Public Charitable Trust established in 2004. A part of the Welspun Group's profits is ploughed back into welfare-driven initiatives of the Foundation. It supports developmental activities related to Education (Girl Child), Women’s Empowerment, Environment, Health and Craft. Most of the activities of the Foundation take place in Mumbai, Anjar-Kachchh, Dahej and Vapi i.e. in and around Welspun facilities.

Welspun strives at all levels to conserve natural resources and energy. Optimization of consumption and well planned wastage control & recycling measures are implemented at all facilities. Going beyond just compliance with applicable Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) legislations, they strive to ensure that all managerial decisions including selection/procurement of materials, machinery
equipment, placement of personnel and setting up of projects are integrated with the broader goals of their CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) policy.  

Welspun is firmly committed to the empowerment of women, focusing on providing them training that will enable them to earn a livelihood and be self-sufficient. Welspun pioneered Mission Mangalam Scheme with the Gujarat Government. Currently there are three Sakhi Swarnim Centers being run in Varsamedi, Dudhai and Bhadreshwar. This initiative widens their livelihood options by building capacities and providing training to rural women. All those trained under the scheme are provided a means of earning a livelihood, which has enhanced their esteem, confidence and most importantly the family’s economic standards.

Welspun India Ltd, (WIL) Vapi has adopted an ITI in Vansda, District, Navsari under the Central Government Scheme of “ITI upgradation by Public-Private Partnership”. It has introduced three new trades i.e. Spinning, Weaving and Cutting & Sewing where training is imparted by professors from MS University, Vadodara and at WIL, Vapi. Successful students are absorbed in WIL.

Welspun has also been at the forefront of initiatives to enhance the levels of health care of all the communities in close proximity to our plants, with a particular emphasis on dedicated facilities for women and children. They have set up health centres on our own as well as collaborated with ongoing projects being run by the government and other social institutions. Welspun’s health centres, which provide subsidized or free care to the needy, are a boon to the underprivileged Populations in the villages surrounding our projects.

Welspun promotes and supports the Right to Education and is dedicated to improving and enhancing the quality of education thus equipping the children of today to become the leaders of tomorrow. High priority is given to specific programmes to boost education of the Girl Child. Welspun Vidya Mandirs (A school up to Standard X) at Anjar, Gujarat and Salav, Maharashtra, aim to enhance all round development of children. They provide quality education to over 2060 students. Welspun Foundation also works closely with the government and non-profit organizations on educational projects in Gujarat and Maharashtra for the benefit of
over 3,000 tribal, rural and urban children. It supports the efforts of NGOs like Naandi Foundation and Light of Life Trust.\(^{15}\)

Another organization is YMCA Gandhidham which has been contributing a lot to the welfare of native people of Kachchh. Young Men’s Christian Association is an NGO working towards freeing Gandhidham-Kachchh from various diseases like AIDS, etc. They have also been contributing to the Knowledge Sector of Kachchh as have been imparting the children the necessary knowledge. It has been also engaged in a variety of activities like Waste Management, sterilization of stray dogs, imparting children the knowledge of Judo Karate, etc. Some of the pictures proving the activities are as under:

![The Children Of YMCA Gandhidham](image1)

The Children Of YMCA Gandhidham

![The Judo Karate Classes At YMCA Gandhidham](image2)

The Judo Karate Classes At YMCA Gandhidham
The people from South India and especially from Tamil Nadu have been living in Kachchh for a long time. They have also contributed to the various sectors of Kachchh. Just like all other Tamilians, these of Kachchh have also touched upon the intellectual concerns of the region. Most of them hold the powerful and intellectual positions in the Knowledge Sector of Kachchh. Apart from this, they have also been enriching the Socio-Cultural Sector of Kachchh as they have officially formed an association of Tamilians which has been doing an ample of activities starting from celebrating the festivals and extending a helping hand towards the needy children of Kachchh by helping them in their education.

Kachchh Tamil Welfare Association was started on 14.01.2010 by all the Tamil speaking community in Kachchh as a Registered Socio-cultural and Welfare Organization. This was a long aspired dream of Kachchh Tamilians. Gandhidham being the Port town always had small group of Tamil families who were in Banks, Port, Government Organizations, Shipping Agencies and had some activities. After the Earthquake of 2001 there was a tax holiday for business bringing in lot of new companies and hence there were many new Tamil families started to settle in Kachchh. There are more than 1000 plus families who are in various fields of Defense forces, Government Organizations, Shipping Fields, Business, Industries, Banking, Hotel Business, Self Employed, Technicians etc. There are many families whose second generation are here and have practically become a Kachchhi/Gujarati.

“Kachchh has supported us, gave us livelihood and the joy of Kachchhi Hospitality, Love and Friendship. It was our aim to give back something to the society by bringing the rich language and cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu and also embark on various welfare activities to the people of Kachchh,” says the Secretary of KTWA, Mr. Sanotsh.

In their short humble beginning they had organized functions during the Pongal, Deepavali and celebrated last year Ganesh Utsav in a traditional way. They organized a traditional Folk and Music dance program giving the glimpse of the rich culture of the Tamil Nadu to the Kachchh people.
On the Social front they participated actively in the Road Safety Awareness week and have teamed up with YMCA Gandhidham on the Animal Birth Control Program for Dogs for prevention and spread of Rabies in Gandhidham. They participated in the rally for peace to the sufferings of the Japanese people in the March Earthquake and Tsunami. They have been assisting “Snehdham”, Gandhidham for providing monthly rations for HIV positive patients & Old Aged destitute people of Gandhidham-Kachchh.17

17 Mr. Santosh

On the Welfare front they organized a Blood Donation Camp, distributed warm and woolen clothes to the Poor people in Gandhidham. They participated in the seva of ‘Mata na madh’ devotees at Desalpar village & Ratnal village. They also assisted in the treatment of a Cancer patient who sought their assistance. They have assisted to get Ration Cards for the poor Tamil families living for more than 25 years.

On the Educational Front they were one of the sponsors of the Inter School Quiz Competition organized by Kerala Samaj. They were prize sponsors for the Inter
College Quiz competition organized by the Rotary Club. Notebooks for about 300 children were distributed to a Sunderpuri school, catering to the poor children of the area.

On the Environmental front they have embarked on the plantation of the Road medians of 200 metres in Tagore Road & planned for a campaign on “Avoid Plastics” starting from Gandhidham. They have been organizing 5 days of Vinayagar Chathurthi celebrations every year with the rich culture of Tamil Nadu and performing Poojas, reciting Vedas, organizing Cultural Programs and providing platform for local children and artists of all communities of Gandhidham. They have also been participating in the “Kachchh Carnival” bringing the Traditional Folk Arts of the Tamil Nadu for the Local Population.

“We have plans to provide scholarship for socially backward school children excelling in studies. We are planning to have Blood Donation camp twice in a year during Republic Day and Independence Day. We are planning to teach Tamil for all the children and Adults in Gandhidham and extend to all parts of Kachchh,” further adds The Secretary.

A Cultural Programme By Kachchh Tamil Welfare Association
The enormous contribution of Non-Gujarats to the healthcare and tourism sectors of Kachchh can never be overlooked. Various institutions are ever ready helpful to the healthcare sector of Kachchh and of which most are run by the Non-Gujarats. Dr. Shyamsundar of Anjar-Kachchh is an epitome when healthcare is concerned. The 2001 earthquake of Kachchh was a curse for Kachchhi people but on the contrary, Dr. Shyamsundar turned out to be a blessing who brought various institutions like Gangaram hospital-New-Delhi, Lokmanya hospital-Pune, Helpage India-Bhopal, Ford Foundation Medical team and so on whose tremendous work proved to be the blessing powder for the earthquake stricken Kachchh in dire emergency. Dr. Shyamsundar has also built a Laxmi Pati Balaji Temple in Anjar-Kachchh which shows the religious amalgam of Kachchh and Andhra Pradesh.
Dr. Shyam Sundar

Laxmi Pati Balaji Temple In Anjar
Health Care Sector as well as Socio-Cultural Sector is very well looked after by Gandhidham Yuva Marwari Manch as these people from Rajasthan have been living and contributing to Kachchh since generations. They have held many Blood Donation Camps in the vast region of Kachchh. They have also been continuously assisting the needy and poor people of Kachchh as far as Health Care is concerned. Their manifold activities prove that they have now become *pakka* Kachchhis and the development of Kachchh owes a large amount to Manch.

Blood Donation Camp Held By Gandhidham Yuva Marwari Manch

Various Non-Gujaratis have also contributed to develop Kachchh Tourism and make its beauty known worldly. On account of honorary C.M. of Gujarat, Mr. Narendra Modi’s constant attempts, the beautiful Rann of Kachchh gains appreciation all over the world. So the adorable beauty and peace of Rann of Kachchh manages to attract the masses of people from around the world. And in this area, though the number of Non-Gujaratis is less as compared to the other sectors, Non-Gujaratis have tried their level best to uplift the level of Kachchh as far as tourism is concerned.

The Tourism Sector of Kachchh has aptly been supported by the attempts of the Field Scientist named Jugal Kishore Tiwari of Jodhpur, Rajasthan. He has been running a Centre for Desert and Ocean in one of the smallest villages named Virani of
Nakhatrana-Kachchh. He has helped Kachchh develop its Eco tourism in all the possible ways.

Centre for Desert and Ocean is a registered Wildlife Conservation Organization (with 12 A and 80G) clearances. The aims and objectives of the CEDO are to do wildlife conservation work in the remote desert region of Kachchh district in Gujarat state of India. Native tree plantation, Nature education camps and Wildlife and nature related orientation programs are organized by us. They believe in “Think Global, Act local”. Wildlife and bird base tourism is promoted by them in a responsible way. He has some 22 years of working experience as Field Scientist in Kachchh district, Eritrea NE Africa, USA and Mexico. They want to work on large scale native trees’ forestation in saline deserts of Kachchh and Gujarat. CEDO is keen to work for such innovative projects with other NGO’s, Corporate and Government organizations.

The Centre organizes:

- 1 Birding trips in Kachchh
- 2. Nature Education camps
- 3. Native flora aorestation
- 4. Desert development works (bird and butterfly gardening greening farm houses) Bird feeders, nest boxes, bird bath and host plants gardening.

From 1995 December to August 2000, he worked as an Assistant manager Wildlife and Environment with the Asia’s largest Cement Industry (Sanghi Cement) in Kachchh district of Gujarat. Work responsibilities included eco-restoration of the project site. He is also a Founder in charge of the Nature Conservation Centre. He has planted more than 60,000 plants (mostly indigenous flora such as Salvadora persica and Acacia nilotica, etc.).
The Wild Animals As Photographed By J.K. Tiwari In Kachchh
A Research Presented On ‘Kachchh-A Jurassic Park’ By J.K. Tiwari

Jugal Kishore Tiwari With The Children At Picnic
A Tree Plantation Programme Held At Sham-e-Sarhad By J.K. Tiwari

Located on the western coast of India, until recent years, Gujarat was hardly featured on the tourist map. A very successful series of ad campaigns featuring Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan has changed that though. There are actually some fabulous tourist places in Gujarat, with diverse attractions such as handicrafts, architecture, temples, and wildlife. Among these places, Kachchh is the most benefited one as Mr. Amitabh Bachchan has done a lot to uplift the level of Kachchh Tourism. The ad campaigns of Mr. Bachchan proved to be the real magic as the Tourism Sector of Kachchh saw a magnanimous hike and people from across India as well as many foreign countries were attracted to visit this remote place which earlier was considered an unknown desert. Some of the stills of the Millennium Star given below are the evidences of the pleasure he gained during his stay at Kachchh.
Mr. Amitabh Bachchan Promoting The Rann (Desert) Of Kachchh

The knowledge and infrastructural areas of Kachchh are ones of the most touched areas of Kachchh as a number of groups and individuals are active in both the sectors. A variety of institutes contribute a lot to uplift the intellectual level of the Kachchhi people. Undoubtedly the Non-Gujaratis have their roles to play in this segment, too. Various institutes like –Veerayatan Vidyapith, Manvi are run by Non-Gujaratis and have become the heart of the educational field in Kachchh. The conventional belief that Kachchh is merely a desert is now a myth as a number of institutes carry the burden of students’ study. And miraculously the Non-Gujaratis are visible in most of such institutes.

In the Infrastructural development of Kachchh, the precious involvement of the Non-Gujaratis can never be overlooked. A variety of giant infrastructures are nothing but the outcome of the intellectual labor of the Non-Gujaratis. ACT Shipping, BM Auto Link, Cargo Motors, Kachchh Highway etc. have contributed a lot to the infrastructural sector of Kachchh. Kandla Port Trust, which is the largest exporting Port in India, includes an ample of engineers from a variety of states other than Gujarat. Various roadways and transportations are possible only because of such Non-Gujaratis’ transports.
The aims and objectives of the study are:

- The present study is an attempt to explain how the Non-Gujaratis were inspired to contribute to this area.
- The present study is an attempt to provide meaning and intentions of the contributors, i.e. “Service to Man is Service to God.”
- The present study intends to explain the comparison between past and present situation in selected areas of Kachchh.
- It is an attempt to study the influence of the contributors and their contribution in this area.

The chapterization of the dissertation is as under:

Chapter 1. Introduction.

Chapter 2. Non-Gujaratis’ contribution to the Socio Cultural Sector of Kachchh.

This chapter gives a brief detail of the various Socio-Cultural Organizations working in Kachchh. Dr. Bisht discovered one of the ancient cultures situated at Dhola veera of Kachchh. This discovery made a large impact in the socio-cultural sector of Kachchh. A variety of groups like ‘Yuva Marwari Manch’, ‘Agrawals’, YMCA, Veerayatan Vidyapith, Gandhidham Arya Samaj, Kachchh Kerala Samajam, Kachchh Tamil Welfare Association, etc. have played a phenomenon role in the social upliftment of this area. A lot many cultural programmes are frequently held by such groups which add to the cultural heritage of Kachchh.

Chapter 3. Non-Gujaratis’ contribution to the Health Care & Tourism Sectors of Kachchh.

This chapter gives a brief summary of the work done by Non-Gujarati individuals and organizations for Kachchh in the field of Health Care & Tourism. The Earth Quake, 2001 proved to be the nightmare to the people of Kachchh. But the Non-
Gujaratis came to the rescue of the people and Kachchh found its heights again. It was like a medical emergency at that time, but some of the missionary doctors like Dr. Shyam Sundar of Anjar and Dr. Gyaneshwar Rao of Bhuj proved to be the blessing powder at the nick of the time who provided their services with fuller heart and without any rebate.

The tourism sector of Kachchh has also been benefited a lot by the efforts of the Non-Gujarat. Their efforts have opened a wide horizon for the people not only of India but also of the World to visit Kachchh and its varied heritage.

Chapter 4. Non-Gujaratis’ contribution to the Knowledge & Infrastructural Sectors of Kachchh.

This chapter throws light on the intellectual aspects covered by the Non-Gujarat in Kachchh. The sector of knowledge is also not left untouched as far as the Non-Gujarat are considered. The Veerayatan Vidyapeeth, Jakhaniya serves as an epitome in the knowledge sector of Kachchh. It deals with the higher education such as MCA & MBA. And with no surprise, it is run by the Non-Gujarat.

A variety of the officers who are Non-Gujarat work at the distinguished Mundra Port and Kandla Port. They play a significant role in the significant infrastructures developed at Kachchh. Various commercial buildings such as Cargo Motors and BM Auto Link are nothing but the contribution of the Non-Gujarat. Most of the Bridges built at Kachchh are the joint ventures of the Government of Gujarat and the Contractors who are Non-Gujarat.


This chapter shows the Economic & Industrial development of Kachchh with the help of Non-Gujarat. A variety of Salt Industries, Automobile firms, Commercial Chambers are the gift of none but the Non-Gujarat staying at Kachchh. They have opened a wide horizon to the economic growth of this area.
The Earth Quake broke the rib of Kachchh from a variety of point of views. But after this disaster, many Non-Gujaratis came to the rescue to build the whole new Kachchh. A lot many industries like Welspun Pvt. Ltd., Man Industries, Aquagel Pvt. Ltd., PSL Pvt. Ltd. Ramco Industries, VVF Pvt. Ltd., JMD Oil Pvt. Ltd., Gokul Oil Refinery, etc. have bent a lot to help Kachchh to stand on its feet again.

Chapter 6. Conclusion.

In this chapter the conclusion and findings of the study are discussed. It also mentions to what extent the objectives of the research are achieved and have the hypothesis turned out to be true or not. It describes the significance of the research and possibility of further study of the contribution of the Non-Gujaratis to the various sectors of Kachchh.
Notes and References:

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