

## Dr. Medha Kotwal Lele

### EDUCATION:

- PhD in Humanism, Pune University 1988  
*PhD topic, Title of thesis M. N. Roy's Radical Humanism: An Examination of the Fundamental Concepts.*
- M.A. ,Pune University 1974

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- **Teaching Institutes**
  1. S.P. College, Pune: Political Theory & Western Pol. Thought 1990-92
  2. Under graduates, and Post Graduate Centre ,  
Symbiosis Law College: Political Theory & Indian Constitution 1984-85
- **Research Studies & Projects**
  1. 1992-93:"A study of the Political Economy of A Semi-Urban Town in Maharashtra: Shirur Ghodnadi", Dept. of Politics & Public Administration, University of Pune. As Research Associate independently carried out the study.
  2. "Women and Radicalism in Maharashtra: Continuity & Change." An independent oral history study on women leaders in Maharashtra of pre-independence and post- independence generations with the Shankar Brahme Samaj Vidyan Granthalaya 1993.Supported by ICSSR.
  3. "A Critical Analysis of the Social Formation and Peasant Resistance in Maharashtra". Worked as a Research Associate and was a part of a team which undertook the study at the Shankar Brahme Samaj Vidyan Granthalaya. This was supported by ILO
  4. "Attitudes of Social Groups to Uniform Civil Code" Worked as Research Assistant on the project with Dr. Raj Kumari Agrawala, Dept. of Law, University of Pune, Pune 1977-78 . Supported by ICSSR
  5. "Political Awareness of Women in Pune". Worked as Research Assistant on the study in the Dept. of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Pune, 1976-77

- **Visiting Faculty**

1. Women's Studies Centre- Refresher Courses Lecturers.
2. Also regular courses on Gender studies, University of Pune
3. Ferguson College, S.P College, St Mira' College,
4. YASHADA (govt. training institute)
5. SNTD Mumbai and Pune,
6. Karve Institute of social work, Pune,
7. Law College of the Law Society, Pune
8. MIT- School of Governance,
9. NGO trainings and capacity building programmes in Maharashtra
- 10. Lectures for visiting scholars/ students**
11. Delaware University students of women's studies 2005- 07
12. Fulbright visiting Faculty in 2005
13. French scholars on an exchange programme, 2005.
14. Swedish Students since 1995 to date

- **Honours**

1. Member, Board of Advisors, Global Fund for Women since 1993 to 2007
2. Member Board of Studies, Women's Studies Department, University of Pune 2001-2006
3. Member editorial Board of newsletter brought out by the Indian Association of Women's Studies 2001-2004
4. Guest Editor for special issue on " Indian Political process and Women's Empowerment" for IAWS newsletter.
5. Member of Social Accountability Committee, Center for Enquiry in Health and Allied Themes (CEHAT) 2000-03.
6. Panel Co-coordinator for sub theme workshop "State and Sharing of Political Space" at the Eighth National conference of Women's Studies, 1998.
7. Chairperson for Panel on Social Sciences and Women's Studies at the first conference held in Aurangabad, Women's Studies Department. 2005
8. Panel Coordinator for Women & Politics at the Maharashtra Stree Abhyas Parishad (Conference of Women's Studies Association, Maharashtra) Aurangabad, 2006
9. NGO representative Member on the Life Insurance Company of India's Sexual Harassment Committee. 2006-2008
10. Member Sexual harassment Committee of NGO Prayas that works on development issues 2004-06.
11. Board of Trustees of PRAYAS a developmental NGO 2008.
12. Member of Steering Committee to set up the Awabai Wadia Women's Archive at the RCWS , SNTD Mumbai 2008.

- **Seminars & Conference Papers**

1. 2006: "Women in Local Self Government in India" Invited to speak at the Regional Workshop in Cambodia in August by Fredirch Ebert Stiftung Foundation, New Delhi and Indonesia
2. 2006: "Information Dissemination-Continuity & Change: The Experience of an Indian Women's Resource Centre. Paper presented at International Conference in Mexico called the KNOWHOW conference in August.
3. 2004: "Contesting Power in Panchayats: The Arduous path to Empowerment for Rural Women" Paper presented at an International seminar on Empowerment of Rural Women at the G.B. Pant Institute, Allahabad.
4. 2003: "Gender Training for Women in Local Self Government: Utility and Preparation of a Multi –media Kit" paper read at Indira Gandhi Open University, New Delhi at a UNESCO supported programme.
5. 2003: "The Role and Significance Networking for Women in Panchayat Raj- A Case Study of Maharashtra". Paper presented at an International Seminar at the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi and South Asia Partnership, Canada,
6. 2002: "Networking and Capacity Building of Women in Local-Self-Government in Maharashtra" paper presented at national seminar organised by Prakriti, New Delhi.
7. 2002: "Moving from Visibility to Effectivity "presented the thematic paper at a national seminar organized by Aalochana, Centre for Documentation and Research on Women, Pune.
8. 2001: "Experiences of Women in Panchayat Raj, Maharashtra" paper presented at national seminar at the Institute of Social Sciences Trust, New Delhi.
9. 2001: Women in Politics- A Maharashtra perspective- paper read at a seminar at the Institute of Social Studies Trust, Bangalore.

- **Recent Publications**

1. 2006: "Contesting Power in Panchayats: The Arduous path to Empowerment for Rural Women" book chapter in 'Rural Women and Development in India: Issues and Challenges' edited by U. Kalpagam and Jaya Arunachalam, Rawat & Company, Jaipur.

2. 2003: "Women in Politics –Today, Yesterday, and Tomorrow" book chapter in a collection in honour of Mrinal Gore, a socialist politician and secretary of the Janata Dal Party published by Swadhar, Mumbai.
3. 2002: "Indian Political Process and Women: Issues of Representation and Reservation" (Marathi) book chapter in "Indian Political Process", ed. by
4. Dr. Yeshwant Sumant & Kishore Bedkihal, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Academy, Satara.
5. 2001: "Local Self Government, Conflict of Interest and Issues of Legitimization" in Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. XXXVI, No 51 Dec.22, 2001.
6. 2001: "From Behind the Veil" a feature article on the campaign for the Right to information, In Un Seul Monde (a Swiss publication) published in three languages, Spanish, French and Swiss.
7. 1990: Co-authored a paper documenting the history of the Co-ordination Committee of the Women's Movement, Maharashtra "StreeMukti Andolan Sampark Samiti, A Case Study. This is published in "Women in Politics: Forms and Processes", Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New Delhi 1992.
8. 1990: "Participation of Women In Electoral Politics in Maharashtra" Co authored a paper with Simrita Gopal Singh et. al. also published in "Women & Politics: Forms & Processes", Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New Delhi, 1992.

- **Other Writing**

1. Evaluation of action programme " Panchayat Sakhi" for Prakriti , Nagpur 2003
2. Evaluation of programme on Women Empowerment for Janarth .2004
3. Contributed several articles to local newspapers, magazines both in English and Marathi like Maharashtra Herald, Manushi, Radical Humanist, Rajsattatel Karbharni, Bayja.

- **Advisory Experience**

1. Advisor to the programme on Women's Studies for the Minnesota Studies in International Development Programme 1997-98. Also advisor to individual visiting scholars for their dissertations.
2. Advisor to students of the exchange programme of Associated Colleges of Mid-West (ACM) Programme USA 1993, 1994, 1999.
3. Associated with SWINDA an exchange programme for students from Sweden for the last 12 years. Organise lectures and field visits for the students

- **Public Lectures**

1. "Women and Domestic Violence in India' at the Socialist Foundation Memorial lecture in honour of Anusaya Limaye, a socialist woman leader and founder of the socialist women's organisation in Maharashtra, 2006
2. "Status of Women in Maharashtra, Keynote address for Police officers Training in Pune 2006
3. "Social Watch" Comments on Citizens Report on the State of Governance, 2003
4. Guest Lecturer at the Bard college of Liberal Arts, New York in 1993. Public lecture on "Women in Local Self-Government: Implications for the Empowerment of Women in India"

- **Community Work and Activism**

1. Associated with the women's movement in western India since 1975 in various capacities. Participated in several campaigns against violence, unjust laws, sexual harassment, fundamentalism, political rights and many others.
2. Founder Member of Purogami Stree Sangathana (Progressive Women's Organisation) 1976 now defunct organisation.
3. Associated with Stree Mukti Andolan Sampark Samiti, (The Co-ordination Committee of Women's Movement in Maharashtra) since its inception in 1978
4. Founder Member and Managing Trustee of Aalochana Centre for Documentation and Research on Women since 1989 Pune.