

PRASANTA CHANDRA MAHALANOBIS: THE SCIENTIST WITH A SOCIAL MISSION

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This is a case study of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (PCM), a twentieth century scientist, statistician and social surveyor. The science of numbers and experimentalism through the survey technique manifest in his modernization projects, were essentially the product of the then socio-economic and political discourses. One encounters in his writings a range of Indian social problems and also a call for social transformation, wherein scientific method came to play an important role. The personality, the worldviews, the political realities, and the demands of science become articulated in the institutions he founded using local Indian experience and global exposure.

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