

RESISTING DOMINATION
Conflicts over Development and
Tribal Movements in Contemporary Orissa

Thesis submitted for the award of the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy
in
Anthropology

By
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With the Guidance and Supervision of
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As such, I was [am] not speaking of a marginality one wishes to lose—to give up or surrender as a part of moving into the center—but rather of a site one stays in, clings to even, because it nourishes one’s capacity to resist. It offers to one the possibility of radical perspective from which to see and create, to imagine alternatives, new worlds.

- bell hooks, *Yearning* (1990:149-150)

Rather than presenting ‘development’ as invariably top-down, hegemonic and static, the challenge for anthropology is to show how political activism both from within and outside the institutions and networks which produce development discourses can help problematize and overturn dominant paradigms.

- Gardner and Lewis, “Dominant Paradigms Overturned or ‘Business as Usual’?” (2000: 16)

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Certificate

This is to certify that this thesis entitled “**Resisting Domination: Conflicts over Development and Tribal Movements in Contemporary Orissa**” is a bonafide research work carried out by **Rajakishor Mahana** with my guidance and supervision and is being submitted to the University of Madras, Chennai, for the award of degree of **Doctor of Philosophy** in **Anthropology**. The results presented in this thesis have not formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma or other similar titles to the candidate.

Place: Chennai

Date: August 2011

Dr. Ananta Kumar Giri

Research Supervisor

Declaration

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled “**Resisting Domination: Conflicts over Development and Tribal Movements in Contemporary Orissa**” is the outcome of my own study undertaken with the guidance and supervision of **Dr. Ananta Kumar Giri** in **Madras Institute of Development Studies**, Chennai. The thesis has not been submitted previously to any university or other such institutions for the award of any degree, diploma or other similar titles.

Place: Chennai

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Rajakishor Mahana

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Abbreviations

ADM: Additional District Magistrate
 AISC: All-India Santal Council
 AISWA: All-India Santali Writers' Association
 am: Anti-meridian
 AOOSU: All Orissa OI-Chiki Students' Union
 AP: Andhra Pradesh
 APC: All Party Committee
 ASECA: Adivasi Socio-Educational and Cultural Association
 BA: Bachelor of Arts
 BALCO: Bharat Aluminum Company
 BBJM: Bisthapan Birodhi Jana Manch
 BDO: Block Development Officer
 BJD: Biju Janata Dal
 BJP: Bharatiya Janata Party
 BPD: Business Partner for Development
 BPL: Below Poverty Line
 CI: Circle Inspector (of Police)
 CM: Chief Minister
 Cr.P.C.: The Code of Criminal Procedure
 DC: District Collector
 CRPF: Central Reserve Police Force
 DDA: Dandakaranya Development Authority
 DFID: Department for International Development
 DFO: District Forest Officer
 DIG: District Inspector General
 DM: District Magistrate
 DNK: Dandakaranya
 DP: Displaced Person
 DPEP: District Primary Education Programme
 DRDA: District Rural Development Agency

EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP: Environmental Management Plan
ESG: Employment Guarantee Scheme
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organisation
GBA: Gandhamardan Bachao Andolan
GoI: Government of India
GoO: Government of Orissa
GP: Gram Panchayat
IDCO: Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa
IFAD: International Fund for Agriculture Development
IG: Inspector General
ITDA: Integrated Tribal Development Approach
kg: Kilogram
km: Kilometer
MA: Master of Arts
MECL: Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd.
MESCO: Mid-East Steel Company
MFP: Minor Forest Produce
MIL: Modern Indian Language
MLA: Member of Legislative Assembly
MNC: Multi National Company
MP: Member of Parliament
NALCO: National Aluminum Company
NCC: National Cadet Corps
NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation
NINL: Nilanchal Ispat Nigam Ltd.
NREGA: National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
NREGS: National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
OBC: Other Backward Caste
ODM: Orissa Directorate of Mines
OIC: Officer-in-Charge
OMC: Orissa Mining Corporation

OPSC: Orissa Public Service Commission
OSPCB: Orissa State Pollution Control Board
OTDP: Orissa Tribal Development Programme
OUAT: Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology
PA: Project Administrator
PAP: Project Affected People
PDS: Public Distribution System
PESA: Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act
PHC: Primary Health Centre
pm: Post-meridian
PMU: Project Management Unit
POSCO: Pohang Steel Company
PSSP: Prakrutik Sampad Suraksha Parisad
R&R: Rehabilitation and Resettlement
RDC: Revenue Divisional Commissioner
RI: Revenue Inspector
SBM: Santali Bhasa Morcha
SC: Scheduled Caste
SP: Superintendent of Police
ST: Scheduled Tribe
TATA: Tata Steel Company Ltd.
UAIL: Utkal Alumina International Ltd.
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund
UNO: United Nations Organisation
UPSC: Union Public Service Commission
URDS: Utkal Rural Development Society
VHP: Viswa Hindu Parisad
VLW: Village Level Worker
VSS: Vana Suraksha Samitis
WFP: World Food Programme
WHO: World Health Organisation

Glossary

<i>Adivasi</i>	Tribal or indigenous people. <i>Adivasis</i> in India are officially known as Scheduled Tribes.
<i>Alsi</i>	An oil seed
<i>Ambdijhola</i>	A curry prepared out of rice gruel added with tamarind
<i>Andolanakari</i>	Activists
<i>Asur</i>	Demon
<i>Baada</i>	Kitchen garden
<i>Babu</i>	Can be translated as Sir or boss
<i>Bandh</i>	Originally a Hindi word which means “closed”, is a form of protest by activists where it is expected the general public to strike work, and everything including the market, public transport services etc. should remain close.
<i>Barsika diwas</i>	Annual day
<i>Bazaar</i>	Market
<i>Berenamunda</i>	In Kondh language, it refers to a place where a number of big flat stones arranged in a fashion of a raised platform where the village council sits for deciding any matter.
<i>Bhaina</i>	Brother
<i>Bhumipuja</i>	Worship of land, the inaugural ceremony of land before constructing a house, company etc.
<i>Bidi/ biri</i>	Hand-made cigarette
<i>Chanda</i>	Fee/contribution in the form of cash, kind or both.
<i>Crore</i>	Ten million or hundred lakhs (10,000,000)
<i>Cumpander agyan</i>	Compounder sir
<i>Dahariya bage</i>	Ostracise. Literally, it means forbidden water and fire. Usually, it means to exclude an individual, a family or a group, by general consent, from friendship, conversation and privileges of a society.
<i>Dalal</i>	Broker or tout
<i>Darbar</i>	Court
<i>Dharnas</i>	Sit-ins
<i>Dikus</i>	Aliens
<i>Dola</i>	Rafter
<i>Dongar</i>	Hills
<i>Garadu</i>	Forest guard (in Kui language)
<i>Gauntia</i>	Landlord
<i>Gherao</i>	Originally a Bengali word meaning "encirclement," is a form of protest where usually a group of people would surround a politician or a government building until their demands are met, or answers given.
<i>Ghurdi sag</i>	A kind of greens
<i>Goruchari</i>	Grazing the cattle in the forest
<i>Gotis/halias</i>	Bonded labours

<i>Gram Panchayat</i>	The local-governance unit at the village and small town level
<i>Gram Sabha</i>	An official meeting of all adults who live in the area covered by a <i>Gram Panchayat</i> .
<i>Harijan</i>	Meaning “child of God”, a term used by Gandhi for <i>dalits</i> . Officially they are known as Scheduled Caste.
<i>Hedu</i>	Head constable (in Kui language)
<i>Kanda and karadi</i>	Literally means roots and shroots, but in generic sense they refer to all forest products
<i>Kandul</i>	A variety of pulses
<i>Kendu</i>	Botanical name <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> ,
<i>Khaadi</i>	Food
<i>Khaki</i>	A dust colour or ash colour dress used by mostly by the police and military personnel.
<i>Khuntkatidars</i>	Literally means those who developed land from wild forest by cutting stumps. It is a title given under the British Raj to Munda and Ho tribes of this area as the first settlers who had community ownership right over forest and its natural resources.
<i>Kumpany</i>	Company
<i>Kutumb panthi</i>	Literally means “family fund”. The community grain bank developed in Kashipur.
<i>Ladi</i>	A small hut made in the farm land
<i>Lakh</i>	One hundred thousand (100,000)
<i>Lathi</i>	Meaning “stick”, is commonly used as a crowd control device by Indian police and other such law enforcement agencies.
<i>Maa</i>	Mother
<i>Mahua</i>	Botanical name <i>Madhuca longifoli</i>
<i>Mai-bap</i>	Mother-father
<i>Manas</i>	A measuring unit for grain
<i>Mandia</i>	A variety of small millet
<i>Mandia pej</i>	Gruel prepared out of ragi (finger millets)
<i>Mansabdar</i>	The simple meaning of <i>mansab</i> is a post, an office, rank or status, hence <i>mansbdar</i> means a rank-holder or an office. It was the generic term for the military-type grading of all imperial officials of the Mughal Empire.
<i>Mansabdari</i>	The administrative system of the Mughal Empire that classified its functionaries based on their rank and status.
<i>Matira poka</i>	Insects of the earth
<i>Naib Sarpanch</i>	An elected representative of the local governance (Gram Panchayat) who acts as a deputy <i>Sarpanch</i> .
<i>Namaskar</i>	It is a common form of customary greeting or salutation among Indians. When spoken to another person, it is commonly accompanied by a slight bow of head with hands pressed together, palms touching and fingers pointed upwards, in front of the chest.

<i>Pallisabha</i>	Palli Sabha is the meeting of all the electorates of a revenue village. Such revenue village may comprise one ward or more than one ward.
<i>Parivar</i>	Family
<i>Patta</i>	Record of rights
<i>Pikka</i>	A country cigar made of tobacco rolled in sal leaves
<i>Podu</i>	Shifting cultivation
<i>Pratistha diwas</i>	Day of establishment or beginning of something
<i>Pucca</i>	Meaning “solid” and “permanent”. <i>Pucca</i> houses are typically made of concrete, stone, brick, clay tiles and/or other solid metals.
<i>Purdah</i>	Curtain system
<i>Rabi crop</i>	The crops that are sown in the winter season are called <i>rabi</i> crops
<i>Raja</i>	King
<i>Ranjamarani</i>	Cutting small branches from the stumps standing on the shifting cultivation patches
<i>Ribini</i>	It means Revenue Inspector, popularly known by the abbreviation RI (in Kui language).
<i>Sagrami</i>	Activists / rebel
<i>Sahi</i>	Hamlet
<i>Sahid Diwas</i>	Martyr day
<i>Sahid stambha</i>	Martyr pillar
<i>Sahids</i>	Martyrs
<i>Sahukar</i>	Moneylender
<i>Sala</i> (plural <i>Sale</i>)	Literally means wife’s younger brother.
<i>Salap</i>	A variety of date palm juice added with herbal intoxicants is taken as an intoxicant drink.
<i>Sali</i>	Literally means wife’s younger sister.
<i>Samiti Sabhya</i>	An elected representative of the local governance system who represents <i>Gram Panchayat</i> at the Block level.
<i>Sangathan</i>	Organisation
<i>Sangrami Sathi</i>	Activist friend
<i>Sarapanch</i>	A democratically elected head of a village level statutory institution of local self-government called the <i>Gram Panchayat</i> in India.
<i>Saree/Sari</i>	A strip of unstitched cloth, ranging from four to nine meters in length, used mostly by women to cover their body. It is popular in India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Burma And Malaysia.
<i>Sistu</i>	Revenue or tax
<i>Suan</i>	A small millet
<i>Sukhbasi</i>	Landless families
<i>Swargadwar</i>	<i>Swarga</i> means “heaven” and <i>dwar</i> means “gateway”, so literary <i>Swargadwar</i> is consider as the 'Gateway to Heaven'. Name of a holy place in Puri, Orissa where generally the Hindus believe to end their life to go to heaven for liberating their soul and getting ultimate salvation.
<i>Tahasil</i>	An administrative unit of local self-government for land records and

	related administrative matters, otherwise known as <i>taluk</i> (<i>talug</i> , <i>taluka</i>), and <i>mandal</i> in some places in india.
<i>Tahasildar</i>	A revenue administrative officer in charge of obtaining tax/revenue from a <i>Tahasil</i>
<i>Tankupej</i>	Mango kernel gruel
<i>Thana</i>	Police station
<i>Thikedar</i>	Petty contractor
<i>Veer Bhumi</i>	Land of the hero
<i>Zamindar</i>	Landlords of colonial India
<i>Zamindari</i>	Landlordship
<i>Zilla Parisada</i>	It is a local government body at the district level in India