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LITERARIA

An International Journal of
New Literature Across the World

Special Issue on:
FOLKLORE

Guest Editor
DEEPANJALI MISHRA
KIIT University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Editors
HARPREET BAHRI
DEEPINDER BAHRI



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Customs and Traditions of Kandha Tribe of Kandhamal

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ABSTRACT

The ethnic culture of Phulbani has significantly proved its existence in the history of Odisha. The advancement in education, science and technology has, no doubt, greatly influenced it; still it is very much existing in the rural and remote parts of the district. Even though the people of Kandha tribe are there in almost all district of Odisha but they are mostly concentrated in Kandhamal district. They are truly the Nature's child. The nature provides them with everything they need in their life. It is believed that they are Dravidian by origin but there is no substantial evidence in the matter.

Folklore is transmitted through the human being. It encircles the aspects of birth and death, love and life, along with the different stages of life and relationship with the nature. Aim of this paper, is to know the Kandha folk culture, traditions, their language, religious belief and marriage systems. The true identity of Kandha culture lies in their folklores, folksongs, art and dances. These form an important part of their day-to-day life. It culminates from the natural surroundings of forests and hills. Hence they are one and the same; and quite inseparable. If we attempt to separate them, they lose their symphony and rhythm.

Their customs and traditions are quite unique and exclusive. But it is unfortunate that it is on the path of disintegration and as dying day by day. The Kandhas are now getting ready to catch the speed of the fast paced world. But still they have not completely forgotten their uniqueness. They have a herculean task ahead of them to maintain balance between their dream and reality.

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