

VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY
CENTRE FOR ADIVASI STUDIES AND MUSEUM

M.Phil. /Ph.D. IN ADIVASI STUDIES

Rationale behind the Syllabus

The domain of Adivasi Studies is interdisciplinary in nature. A number of formal academic disciplines share the subject areas and methodologies of Adivasi Studies. Keeping this in mind, the M.Phil and Ph.D. Programmes in Adivasi Studies have been designed.

This course has been designed to reinvent the cognitive categories in concerned disciplines so that it can be meaningfully engaged in seeing the tribals in appropriate context. The divisions in the syllabus do not mean water-tight compartments, but advocate the interconnected nature of the knowledge in this domain.

Objectives:

- The principal objective of the M.Phil programme in Adivasi Studies is to make the participants familiar with the social, cultural, geographical and economic aspects of the life of the indigenous people of the country so that they may successfully compete in the world of growing demand for efficient professionals in the governmental and non-governmental sectors of the job market which needs experts in this domain to assess, evaluate, formulate and execute plans and programme for the development of the tribal people of the country. The location of the varsity in proximity to the tribal inhabited areas of Jangal Mahal has enhanced the relevance of this course. The course structure and the pedagogic elements of this interdisciplinary course is designed in such a way that the students will be trained in how to use that knowledge in presenting seminars, writing term papers and formulating problems on their own and apply this knowledge for the betterment of the people concerned.
- The students who join this course from diverse disciplines will also receive an orientation to the expanding horizons of tribal studies in the modern world. This includes theoretical and methodological advancements made in this field of study.
- The third objective of the programme is to prepare the students for research at the Ph.D level too. Viewed from this perspective, the M. Phil programme in Adivasi Studies will act as a useful bridge between the Masters' in diverse disciplines and a

Ph.D programme in a specialized area of study. The first semester of the programme is intended as common course work for both M Phil and Ph D students.

- The fourth objective of the programme would be to generate appropriate skill and understanding among the students through hands-on training in methodology, data analysis and their interpretation not only in solving immediate practical problems but also in innovative thinking towards theoretical aspects of the discipline.

In nutshell the course may be termed as:

‘A prospectus for human resource development’

Course Structure

Semester	Course No	Course Name	Credit
Semester I (50 x 4 = 200)	ADS 111	Conceptualizing and Contextualizing Tribe	4
	ADS 112	Tribe in Historical Perspectives	4
	ADS 113	Tribe and Material Culture	4
	ADS 114	Research Methodology	4
Semester II (50 x 4 = 200)	ADS 121	Tribes in India	4
	ADS 122	Tribal Language, Literature and Arts	4
	ADS 123	Tribe, State and Politics:	4
	ADS 124	Tribal Development – Issues and Approaches	4
2nd Year	ADS 221	M. Phil. Dissertation	8

First Year
Semester I

Course: ADS 111: Conceptualizing and Contextualizing Tribe

- Concept of Tribe, Ethnic Groups, Subaltern, Dalits, Indigenous people, Adivasi, debates over defining the tribe
- Tribe and Caste in India contexts, Tribe- caste and Tribe-Peasant Continuum, Folk and Little Communities – Redfield’s View
- Theoretical issues in tribal studies- Evolutionary, Formalist and Constructivist approaches. Epistemology of tribal knowledge system. Re-invention of cognitive categories.
- Modernism, Post-modernism, Post-colonialism, De-colonization, Globalization and tribe.

References:

The Scheduled Tribes- K.S. Singh

Emerging Tribal Image- S.L. Doshi

Tribal Situation in India – K.S.Singh

Key Concepts in Social and Cultural Anthropology- Nigel Rapport & Joanna Overing

Changing Tribal Society in India: Issues & Challenges- Edited by Pradip K.

Bhowmick, Prabhat K. Singh & M.P. Rajak

Prasanga Adivasi – S. Bandyopadhyay

Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples. – S T Smith

Tribal Identities – Ed. K. K. Chakraborty

Course: ADS 112: Tribe in Historical Perspectives

- Positing the tribe in Ancient, medieval and modern India.
- The tribe and the colonialism in America, Africa , Australia and other Asian countries
- Tribe and the British Raj – Codification, Census and Survey
- Criminal tribes – saga of stigmatisation and marginalization.
- Administration of Tribes – administrative mechanism, forest policy , land alienation, customary law, Acts and Rules

References:

Tribal History of North-East India- Edited by H. Sudhir

Tribes Under Stigma- Malli Gandhi & V. Lalitha

Adivasis and the Raj- Sanjukta Das Gupta

A Nomad Called Thief: Reflections on Adivasi Silence- G.N. Devy

Europe and the People without History – E.Wolf

Course: ADS 113: Tribe and Material Culture

- Economies of the tribes, Livelihood, impact of urbanization and Industrialization, Globalization.
- Aspects of material culture- House type, indigenous technology, dress and ornaments, food, ethnic fashion
- Issues of conservation and tangible heritage of the tribes- museum and neo-museum, concept of tribal and Ethnographic museum, basic components of museum and ethnographic museum, Conservation and preservation, display and documentation. Audio-visual documentation, ethnographic film.

References:

Markets and Indigenous Peoples in Asia- Oxford

Agricultural Development in Tribal Areas- G. Kavitha

Tribal Economy in India – A K Danda

Globalisation and Tribal Economy – C.J. Prakash

Tribal Economy at Crossroads – Ed. S.N. Chaudhary

Impact of Globalisation on Tribals – M. Aerthayil

Attributes of Culture: Reflection of Cultural

Itineraries from a Multi-Cultural Nation – A. Sarkar, et.al.

Museum Management – S. Bhattacharya

Shilpobastu Sanrakshan – S. Bhattacharya

Course: ADS 114: Research Methodology

- Research methodology – What is research; Types of Research, Research design. Data Archive; Collection of data (Techniques and Methods – Observation, interview, Case Study, Schedule, Questionnaire, Life History), Fieldwork, Ethnography.
- Narrative Analysis, Discourse Analysis, Content Analysis.
- Report Writing, Copy Editing, Proof Reading, Coding.
- Use of Photographs – Audio-Visual Documentation
- Craft of Research – Writing, Presentation of Paper/Report
- Bibliography and Reference Style.
- Basic statistics (Graphs & Charts, Central Tendency, Correlation, Regression, Multivariate Analysis, t-Test, & Chi-Square Test); ANOVA; Excel; SPSS.

References:

Fieldwork Training in Social Work- I.S. Subhedar & E.A. Ramaswamy

The Fieldworker and the Field - M.N. Srinivas & A.M. Shah

Research Methodology- R. Ahuja

Methods & Issues in Social Research- J.A. Black & D.J. Champion

Research Methods – P.Stokes and T.Wall

Research Methodologies: Methods and Techniques – C.R. Kothari

Semester II

Course: ADS 121: Tribes in India

- Overview of tribal distribution in India – Demographic features, geographical and linguistic distribution.
- History and development of Tribal Studies in India
- Tribe and Indian Constitution, Concept of Scheduled Tribe, PVTG, Constitutional Safeguards, Acts and Rules relating to the tribal communities in post colonial India
- Problems of the tribe – major issues: land alienation, literacy/education, problems of Tribal women and children, displacement and rehabilitation, health – ethno-medicine, nutrition
- Tribal religion – features, Nature- Man- Spirit Complex, Bongaism, Sacred Grove, Animism, Totem and Taboo. Christianity and the tribes, Hinduism and the tribe, Impact of Buddhism on the tribes, Hindu method of tribal absorption and its critique.
- Ethnographies on tribes – Ethnography Studies on the Santal (Mann, Biswas, Mukherjee, Orans), Ethnographies on the tribes (Munda, Birhor, Lodha, Oraon, Toto, Nuer, !Kung San).

Practical – A report / Review to be submitted.

References:

- Tribals and the Indian Constitution*- N.K. Behura & Nilakantha Panigrahi
- Tribes, Cultural-Adaptations and Belief Systems*- N.K. Das
- The Rise of a Folk God: Villhál of Pandharpur*- Ramchandra Chintaman Dhere
- Caste, Tribe & Gender: Politics of Self & the Other*- Edited by Vulli Dhanaraju
- The Scheduled Tribes* – G.S. Ghurye
- Tribal Life in India*- Nirmal Kumar Bose
- The Tribal Culture of India* – L.P. Vidyarthi and B.K.Rai
- Rethinking Tribe in Indian Context* – Eds. B.K.Das and R.K.Das
- Contemporary Society: Tribal Studies* – D.K. Behera and G. Preffer

Course: ADS 122: Tribal Language, Literature and Arts

- Studies in tribal language – linguistic survey, endangered languages, grammar of tribal languages, scripts of tribal languages, documentation of tribal languages
- Oral traditions among the tribes – folk tales, songs, poetry , sacred narratives/myths and other forms of formalized folklore
- Tribes in Indian literature with special reference to Bengali literature. History of tribal literature in India with special reference to Santali literature, Translation of tribal literature and other cultural texts, tribal writers and their literature
- Performing arts of the tribal people, Tribal festivals, dance, drama. Tribal life in films and documentaries. Tribal arts and crafts.

References:

- Tribal Women: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow*- Edited by S.N. Chaudhury
- The Santals- Anthropological-Theological Reflections on Santali & Biblical Creation Traditions*- Dr. T. Hembram
- Folklore in the Changing World*- Ed. by J. Handoo & R. Kvideland
- Indian Dalit & Tribal Autobiographies: A New Perspective*- Dr. A. M. Hulibandi
- Painted Words* - G.N. Devy

The Oxford Companion to Aboriginal Art and Culture - Kleinert, S. and M. Neale (eds).

Indigeneity: Culture and Representation, Vol. 1 - Devy, G.N., Geoffrey V. Davis and K.K. Chakravarty (eds.)

Course: ADS 123: Tribe, State and Politics:

- Tribe and making of the 'other': State, Power, Empowerment, Rights– Ethnicity – theoretical issues and practical concerns. Tribe-Nation – State, State Formation among the tribe, Tribalism, Tribalisation and re-tribalisation.
- Tribal movements in India – Types of movements and their features. Social movements among the tribes.
- Tribes and Environmental movements in India. Tribes and their ecology – livelihood and adaptive strategies, Tribals and LWE.
- Tribe and Indian National movement.

References:

Subjugated Nomads: The Lambadas under the Rule of the Nizams- Bhangya Bhukya

Representing Tribe: The Ho of Singhbhum Under Colonial Rule- Asoka Kr. Sen

Social Movements in Tribal India- Ed. by S.N. Chaudhury

Tribal Movements in India- K.S. Singh

Birsa Munda and his Movement, 1874-1901 – K.S.Singh

In the Belly of the River – A. Baviskar

Social Movements in Tribal India – Ed. S. N. Chaudhary

Tribal Movement – G. Parulkar

Course: ADS 124: Tribal Development – Issues and Approaches

- Concept of development, tribal development and welfare. Approaches to tribal development. History of Tribal development in India. Sustainable development of the tribal habitat and environment.
- Administrative mechanism for tribal development. Organization and Institutions for tribal development. Plans and programmes for tribal development.
- Problems and critique of tribal development. Idea of post –development , Agency and politics of aid, gender and tribal development, Role of NGO in development
- Tribal Health and Nutrition- Status of tribal health and nutrition, methods of study of health and nutrition status, Study of morbidity.

References:

Educating Ex-Criminal Tribes: Issues & Concerns- Malli Gandhi

Tribal Welfare & Development: Emerging Role of Anthropological Explorations-
A.N. Sharma

Contemporary Society: Tribal Studies- Deepak Kr. Behera & George Pfeffer

Persistence & Change in Tribal India- M.V. Rao

Tribal Development in India : The Contemporary Debate– G.C.Rath

Tribal Situation in India – V. Joshi and C. Upadhyay

Tribal Development – B.D. Sharma

Second Year

Course: ADS 221: M.Phil. Dissertation [Research Work & Submission]

[Note: The Semester I Syllabus is same for Ph. D. Course Work]

- Ph D students will begin working on their dissertation under supervisors allotted to them by the Ph D Committee immediately after they qualify in the course work examination.