A QUEST FOR IDENTITY: SOME PRELIMINARY REFLECTION IN TRIBAL WOMEN IN ODISHA

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ABSTRACT:
In the context of India’s changed socio-economic and political environment, communal identity is a subject of agonized debate.¹ In generally, women would like to choose and inhabit multiplicity identity and searching for identity from different Caste, gender, language, nation, region and classes, which are prime struggle for them. They are not denied access to the environment but they are denied all possible rights because they do not know their right, personalities and identity what the community is providing them. The Tribal women in Odisha at least are not becoming conscious or more awake to the point that children must go to school and to get other facilities.

Most of women in Tribal belt do their work in forest land or under the local builders and contractors, their income go to husband’s pocket and also for other household expenditure. In the same way female children are compelled to support and help to mother in field, mother and children are totally unaware of education and information from the word. Therefore Tribal women get marry in the age of 14, became a mother in age of 15, grandmother in the age of 30 and dies in age of 40. Women in Tribal belt are being defined as just being without proper identity. Women in Tribal belt have been failed to notice for their identity.

¹ Indian democracy, writes a commentator, seems inexorably to be moving ‘towards the politics of identity which represent and uphold the interests of specific groups based on religious, ethnic, caste, linguistic and minority indefinites. This appears to be the almost natural outcome of a democratic process. As people belonging to different groups become conscious of their indemnities and of their rights and aspirations, they form political parties and try to influence the political process to serve their group interests’. Arjun Sengupta, ‘Identity Politics: Narrow Interests to Grand Causes’, The Times of India, Delhi, 1 April 2000.
This research brings out some preliminary study on quest and suffering for Identity of Tribal women in Odisha.

**KEYWORDS:** India, environment, Tribal.

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