This book walks us through the entity of the Santals as an indigenous people, their being, their lifestyle and their belief system.

This book explores how their ancient belief system has stood the test of time; where it struggles to retain its authenticity, where it has had to transform and how people who have embraced a mainstream religion strive to maintain a balance between the two.

Timotheas Hembrom has over 40 years of Theological teaching experience and is an ordained Priest of the Church of North India. He has taught at Chera Theological College, Cherrapunji, Bishop’s College, Kolkata, Gossner Theological College, Ranchi and The Santal Theological College, Benagaria.
We are one of the original peoples; the adivasis of this land. Our ancestors said that Santals were born from a pair of geese—Hás and Hásil—and used to tell the story of our creation.

All the peoples on Earth have stories of their origin, this is ours. We want to preserve it here for you—gidrā—and also share it with children all over the world.

Ruby Hembrom is a learning and development professional and the director of adivaani. Boski Jain is an illustrator from Bhopal. This is their first book of a series on Santal Creation Stories.
We have made the Adivasi into a backward group, to be looked down upon and pitied, removed from our march towards industrialization and the fulfilment of corporate greed. Gladson has suffered at the hands of these high handed policies. He has seen his kin killed, justice denied, poverty augmented, resources held back. And he has had the courage to continuously raise his voice to bring attention to their plight and what we risk destroying.

This book comes of his personal experiences and analyses. Indeed, it is an important voice to listen to, to broaden our understanding of the alternate narratives running within our peoples.

From the Foreword by Mallika Sarabhai

Gladson Dungdung is an adivasi human rights activist. This is his first book in English, though he’s authored books in Hindi before. He has written more than 200 articles on the issues of Indigenous People’s rights, displacement, land alienation, human rights and social change. He is a pioneer in the human rights movement in Jharkhand.
When our ancestors—Hās and Hāsil—decided to breed, there was no place for them. Thakur Jiv, the Supreme Being created earth for them and instructed some aquatic animals to help with the task. This is the story of how our lands came to life, gidrā.

Ruby Hembrom is a learning and development professional and the director of adivaani. Boski Jain is an illustrator from Bhopal. This is their second book of a series on Santal Creation Stories.
Timotheas Hembrom offers a lucid introduction to the lifestyle and belief system of the Santals, showing that though they are a people of no scripture, they have as much knowledge about God the creator as the people of Scriptures. He also conducts an exegetical study and compares the Biblical and the Santal’s creation narratives. His findings and conclusions prove to be relevant for any reader interested in faith and the origin of religion.

Dr. Hembrom has over 40 years of Theological teaching experience and is an ordained Priest of the Church of North India and has taught at several theological colleges across India. A writer, editor, singer-musician, and songwriter, he wears many hats. This book is a reflection of his love for words and language, and what he is at the core—a Santal, an Adivasi and a Theologian.
I think beautiful Indigenous bodies on the land, living our cultures, singing our political systems, and animating the lifeways of our ancestors is revolutionary in the face of on-going hydro-electric development, oil and gas development, mining, deforestation, chemical farming and genetic engineering, encroachment, environmental contamination, and the criminalization of dissent. I think Indigenous peoples know how to live with the land and develop sustainable alternatives to capitalism—because it is Indigenous economic intelligence that has sustained us for most of our histories.

From the Introduction to the Indian Edition by the author

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson is a writer, scholar, storyteller and activist of Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg ancestry and is a member of Alderville First Nation. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Manitoba, is an instructor at the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge, Athabasca University.
This book highlights the role of the Central and State Government in the anti-Naxalite raids in the Red Corridor areas starting October 2009 in which countless Adivasis and civilians lost lives. It lays bare the realities of the operation—economic gains from the mineral rich lands these Adivasis inhabit—a horrific wipe-out mission where innocent villagers were killed, women raped and fake encounters carried on.

This book confronts the Government and the citizens with the mirror of the hard-hitting realities of the Red Corridor and hopes to bring justice to the victims of the Crossfire.

From the Foreword by Swami Agnivesh

Gladson Dungdung is an adivasi human rights activist and writer based out of Jharkhand. He is the author of Whose country is it anyway?

Sanjay Krishna is well known writer and journalist from Jharkhand.
Year after year towards the end of June, Santal men, women and children make the long walk to the spot where the Santal Rebellion started in 1855. Tracing the route of the uprising, this long walk is to remember and celebrate one defining moment in adivasi history.

The Hul, as it was and still is called, left a deep impression upon the social imaginary of the Santal people. It was a last ditch effort to defend their way of life which was being undermined by the influx of outsiders. This is a book for children to remember and cherish our heroes and their deeds.

Ruby Hembrom, a Santal, is the founder-director of adivaani. She is the writer of adivaani’s Santal Creation Stories for children in English.

Saheb Ram Tudu, a Santal, is an artist, illustrator, animation filmmaker and sculptor with degrees from the Banaras Hindu University and the National Institute of Design. He has won 4 national and 2 International awards for his animations. He is also a published poet.
Liya, a young Santal, is a regular girl from an Adivasi village in Assam, with regular struggles, aspirations and experiences, who finds herself in a journey through life against the backdrop of ethnic riots.

An exploration of identity — and the prejudice and discrimination attached to it — this novel marks Rejina Marandi’s debut and a fresh attempt to expose and document a dark corner in the long negation Adivasis in Assam have suffered.

Questioning not the social, political and economical roots of it but their painful effects in a new generation of people, Liya’s story is about her coming of age in a country that may not be entirely hers.
Adi Dharam unfolds before us a way of life based on egalitarian principles, a continuum of nature, ancestor and human, and a symbiosis between human and animal kingdom. It emerges from a lost world the whole of humanity shared once. It was the world of magic where the creator and the created lived together. It was a spirit-centric world as opposed to anthropocentrism of the normative religions.

The survival of the Adi Dharam is, therefore, crucial for the survival of all, the toiling and peace loving people of the world, both indigenous and non-indigenous. The struggle to protect the land, forest and water is the precondition of the survival of the Adi Dharam. The ‘another world’ that we all believe is possible has to be built on the foundation of the reconstructed world of the Adi Dharam.

Samar Bosu Mullick
In the present context of concern for the environment, the relevance of this story is self-evident. The current global warming and consequential fear of rain–fire and deluge is not mythical but real. In such a situation the audacity of today’s superhuman—that we are the best work of creation and therefore whatever we do is correct, is indicative of an unavoidable calamity. Being the best work of creation does not mean that man has unlimited right to toy with nature. Despite increased growth of scientific knowledge, man should have a humble feeling of his smallness, gratitude and respectfulness towards nature. Nature nurtures us all and therefore it is our duty that we should take care of her. All intents related to this thought are included in the broad canvas of the present story.

Ram Dayal Munda
The immediacy of social experience in the life of tribes, conceived as fundamental to their existence, is the foundation of all knowledge that concerns them. Articulating from varied social locations, this book attempts to conceive and constitute a mutually shared and egalitarian space of dialogue towards knowledge production derived from the lived experiences of diverse tribal communities inhabiting the North East region of India. Taking their struggles and experience as both a source of knowledge and as a unit of analysis, each of the chapters in the book attempts to articulate specific organic conditions that is then transmitted into dialogical spaces that intersects with other realities. This kind of methodological exercise within Tribal Studies is generally acknowledged as an epistemological framework that gives rise to experiential theory.

Alex Akhup
The ancient values of the Neolithic and Paleolithic traditions still struggle to survive in a world of cold metallic civilization. Human symbiosis with nature has no place in the progress of such a way of life. Still life rolls on, over the debris of shattered dreams carrying the load of cumulative contradictions. In mainstream literature they are largely ignored, their hopes and aspirations, pangs and agonies are not communicated to the society at large. In Indian English literature I do not find them at all.

The contemporary literature also ignores those who hear and respond to the sylvan cry and find themselves alone and isolated, condemned and reprimanded and even jailed and killed for being anti-development. These stories are embedded on facts that I as an activist encountered during the last 45 years of my being among the characters of the stories. My experiences made me realize that life is more dramatic than fiction.

Samar Bosu Mullick

Title: *Glut*

Author: **Jacinta Kerketta**

Languages: **Hindi & German**

ISBN: **978-3-945191-09-5**

Size: **8 x 5 in**

Pages: **160**

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*Mabadev Toppo*
Jacinta Kerketta has in a short time succeeded in becoming acclaimed in the Hindi literary world due to her consistent creativity. The alertness and efficiency with which she has introduced a particular context in her verses, is a new experience to poetry lovers. Her poems effectively convey the pain, anguish and anger of the indigenous tribal society. Additionally, Jacinta has sought to empathetically understand the tribal woman's plight through her poems.

Mahadev Toppo
This book was inspired by a set of 33 extraordinary pen and ink drawings sketched in India by my great-great grandfather, Walter Stanhope Sherwill. I first saw the drawings inherited by my family in New Zealand, when I was about seven years old. I looked at them with amazement, excited to realise that one of my forebears had the skill to make such images. I also recall thinking how old and mysterious they were, especially because no one seemed to know very much about either the drawings or what they represented. Although the ragged edged paper had turned to light sepia, the drawings were still distinct and engaging, depicting exotic Indian landscapes dispersed with a range of curious landmarks —vast unusual rock formations, caverns and precipices, an ancient embedded gun, carved monuments, hot springs, enormous banyan trees—and inhabited by fascinating people sometimes shown working with large, sturdy elephants. Each drawing had a caption providing the location, date (between 1846 and 1851) and other details, neatly handwritten in a clear, cursive style. By publishing Illustrated Pursuits in Kolkata, I have had the privilege of working on this project and sharing his endeavours with descendants of the people represented in his work.

Ngaire Gardner
Title: Social Work in India
(Tribal and Adivasi Studies, Perspectives from Within vol. 3)
Editor: bodhi s. r.
Language: English
Size: 8 x 5 in
Pages: 448
Year of publication: 2016
Price: ₹ 400

This specific volume of the TAS series attempts to unravel key constitutive elements of a ‘perspectives from within’ in Tribal and Adivasi Studies. This being a subject area not sufficiently explored by scholars and whose myriad questions remain definitively unanswered to this day, both in academia and within progressive activist scholarship. Evidences to assert and augment propositions related to unraveling this distinct methodological position have been sourced from a practice discipline—social work. Discursive in nature and drawing extensively from the experiences of those who have directly engaged in critical and strategic practice in Tribal/Adivasi empowerment, this volume; also an act in epistemological reconstruction, envisages asserting and achieving greater depth and clarity of the said perspective in the identified subject domain.

bodhi s. r.
This is a marvelously brave book. I know Jasmine has swum against the tide of publishers wanting her to fit her book into their agenda, and her refusal to do so testifies to her faith in her book.

This is a book that should be used like a pathfinder for other books on oral narratives. Literature from the Northeast has been suppressed too long by mainstream publishing that requires writers from the region to write within a prescribed box and format.

Here is a writer daring to write oral literature her way, retaining the flavor of oral storytelling, including Lotha words that are culturally untranslatable in their original forms, unashamedly using the logic of the oral narrator and taking us back to an age when ‘all animals and insects could talk, and streams could babble, and all creation had the gift of language’.

Easterine Kire
The exhibition *Another India: Explorations and Expressions of Indigenous South Asia*, opened on the 7 March 2017 and will continue until April 2018 at the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (MAA), Cambridge University.

Curated by Dr. Mark Elliot, this exhibition “explores the tangled histories of artefacts from indigenous populations in India and how they came to be in the collections in Cambridge.”

The assemblage being exhibited is a combination of artefacts, paintings and photographs from MAA’s collection, many of which have never been exhibited before, and artworks by contemporary artists from the Indigenous and Adivasi communities represented.
What does India’s booming growth mean for the poorest who built it? BEHIND THE INDIAN BOOM travels across the country to meet its Dalits and Adivasis — its low caste and tribal communities — historically stigmatised as ‘untouchable’ and ‘wild’. Their cheap labour and land are the source of economic growth but they are also fighting against the situation they find themselves in. This photographic essay spans the production of different commodities from tea to cotton, explores the building of the infrastructure of growth from construction to dams, and investigates the extraction of mineral resources. Everywhere BEHIND THE INDIAN BOOM highlights the precarious conditions of work, the exploitation and oppression, and the resistance of Adivasis and Dalits.
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