

READINGS IN EASTERN AND NORTHEAST INDIA

(Environment, Gender, History and Tribes)

Editors
Debasish Dey
Dr. Ruman Sutradhar

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Preface

Readings in Eastern and Northeast India is an eclectic volume that detonates various aspects of Eastern and Northeast India. The book ignites several capacious themes on gender, environment, tribal lives, and their customary practices. The essays included in the book convey aspects relating to the history, society, and politics of the people residing in the region which is inclusive of green politics, ST education, indigenous medicinal methods of tribal communities, and many more. The topics are heterogeneously fastened to highlight the geographical area chosen. While the environment remains a core concern for the sustenance of living organisms, it is certainly crucial to peep into it. This collection puts forth some such issues which need to be highlighted to attract the attention of policymakers, tribal conservation agencies, and academia. The aim was to cater to the needs of researchers and academicians in the field along with students and the ones interested in the topic.

We extend our note of thanks to Shri Prem Singh Bisht of Kunal Books, New Delhi for publishing this book within his hasty hours.

Place: Alipurduar

Date: 18/11/2021

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Mary Sana Rajkumari : is a Ph.D. scholar from the Department of Manipuri, Assam University, Silchar. She has completed her MA and Mphil in Manipuri from the same university. She has been working on Rongmei Tribes Culture. Her area of interest is Tribal studies in North East India and Cultural studies. She has presented papers in various National and international seminars.

Sujay Debnath : M.A. B.ed., M.Phil, is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Alipurduar University. He has been engrossed in the study of Modern Indian History and his mind has been attentive in the researches of the local history of West Bengal and North Bengal. He has presented several papers in international, National, and state-level seminars. He also published more than 20 research articles in different Journals. He has also received the prestigious "Goutam Chattopadhyay Memorial Award" in 2020 from Paschimbanga Itihas Samsad, Kolkata.

Sushmita Gurung : is working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Namchi Government College, Kamrang, Sikkim, since 2018. I even had an opportunity to work in school as a Sociology post-graduate teacher for almost 4 years before joining the present workplace. I was associated

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Ruman Sutradhar

CHAPTER
1

Ecofeminism in India: Pivotal Role of Women in Addressing Environmental Injustices

Paramita Mukherjee

Exploitation and domination of nature and women under patriarchal society have important links. The shift from cultivation of mixed species critical for local subsistence to monoculture of commercial crops potentially destroyed sustainable lifestyle incorporating poverty. Chemical based farming exposes people to pesticide related illness. Deforestation, ground water depletion, loss of agricultural land deprive women of fuel wood, safe drinking water, expose them to health hazards, displace them to marginal lands reducing their personal income. Therefore resolution of ecological problems must contain the feminist perspectives. The fundamental intention of Ecofeminism is to call out to women to save the planet. Participation of Women led political organization of village community in environmental movements has great significance in bringing social as well as environmental justice. Through their indigenous wisdom woman promote biodiversity and preserve nature. India has a long tradition of acknowledging women's contribution towards preserving the environment. Social activists, novelists have identified development as weapons of mass destruction and advocated living in harmony with nature to end oppression in all its forms.