



CENTRE FOR TRIBAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF DELHI



A Report

**JANJATIYA GAURAV DIVAS
2024**



About CTS

VISION

The Executive Council of the University of Delhi decided to establish Centre for Tribal Studies (CTS) on 9 June 2023 as a multi-disciplinary centre under Faculty of Social Sciences, to facilitate studies on different tribes of India as per Ordinance XX (Z). The office bearers were appointed on 1st August 2023. The Centre is currently located at Room no. 30 of the Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi.

The Centre attempts to:

(i) Understand the term “Tribe” from India-Centric perspective including study of their social, cultural, linguistic, religious, economic, environmental diversity and commonalities.

(ii) Study the role and contribution of tribal leaders in various eras of Indian history.

(iii) Highlight role and significance of tribal leaders in India’s struggle for freedom, and bring out to prominence the unsung heroes among them.

(iv) Document various Lok traditions of India’s tribes including their indigenous/traditional knowledge and work to disseminate such information to the public in general and to academia and students in particular.

(v) Identify special problems and needs of Denotified and Nomadic tribes and Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) with special reference to conservation, development and special health needs.

(vi) Examine the significance of forest-tribe relationship with special reference to stability of forest ecosystems and livelihood issues.

(vii) Study contemporary issues relevant to the tribal communities which has a significant bearing on their present well-being and future progression in terms of overall developmental perspective.

Governing Structure



Prof. Yogesh Singh
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
University of Delhi

Executive Council of the University

Governing Body

- (i) **Prof. Shri Prakash Singh**
Chairperson of Governing Body
 - (ii) Pro-Vice Chancellor
(Ex-officio)
 - (iii) Dean of Colleges
(Ex-Officio)
 - (iv) Dean, Faculty of Science
(Ex-Officio)
 - (v) Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
(Ex-Officio)
 - (vi) Dean, Faculty of Arts
(Ex-Officio)
- External Expert members*
- (vii) Prof. T.V. Kattimani
Central Tribal University of A.P
 - (viii) Prof. Chander Mohan Parsheera
Director, Institute of Tribal Studies, Himachal Pradesh University
- Distinguished Academician*
- (ix) Prof. Payal Mago,
Director, Campus of Open Learning
 - (x) Prof. K. Ratnabali,
Dean, Academics
 - (xi) Prof. V.S Negi
Department of Geography
 - (xii) Prof. Soumendra M. Patnaik
Director of the Centre - Member Secretary
 - (xiii) Dr. Avitoli G Zhimo
Joint Director, CTS

Research Committee

- (i) Prof. S.M. Patnaik
Director, CTS - Chairperson
- Distinguished Academician*
- (ii) Prof. Payal Mago,
Director, Campus of Open Learning
 - (iii) Prof. K. Ratnabali,
Dean, Academics
 - (iv) Prof. V.S Negi
Department of Geography
- Expert Members*
- (v) Prof. T.V. Kattimani
Central Tribal University of A.P
 - (vi) Dr. Seema Singh
Faculty of Law
 - (vii) Dr. Santosh Hasnu
Hansraj College
 - (ix) Dr. Avitoli G. Zhimo
Joint Director, CTS - Member Secretary

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024

Foreword



It gives me immense pleasure to present this brief report containing the activities that the Centre for Tribal Studies at University of Delhi organized in celebration of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, 2024 in the week specified by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India. I am also pleased to inform that we had organized a panel discussion to celebrate 26th November as the Constitution Day by the Centre for Tribal Studies.

All these activities has created a momentum among different stakeholders especially the students and faculty members of the university. I wish the centre the very best in all its endeavors.

Prof. Shri Prakash Singh

Chairperson, Governing Body
Centre for Tribal Studies
and
Director, South Campus
University of Delhi

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024

The Centre for Tribal Studies (CTS) at the University of Delhi commemorated the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda by celebrating **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas**, on November 16, 2024. The event was honoured by the presence of Hon'ble Member of Parliament Smt. S. Phangnon Konyak, the first tribal woman from Nagaland elected to the Rajya Sabha and an esteemed alumnus of Delhi University.

Smt. S. Phangnon Konyak is the first woman from Nagaland elected to the Rajya Sabha in April 2022. She holds a Master's degree in English Literature from Delhi University and was active in student organizations. She heads the Walo Organisation, an NGO focused on health, education, gender equality, women and child rights, and the documentation and preservation of cultural heritage. She heads an NGO, Walo Organisation, dedicated to creating awareness and implementing programs on health, education, gender equality, women and child rights, and Her leadership extended to the political arena, where she served as the President of the BJP Mahila Morcha Nagaland and currently holds the position of Vice President in the state's parent body. She is a member of several parliamentary committees.



Professor Balaram Pani, Dean of Colleges presided over the event. A distinguished scholar with over two decades of research and teaching experience, Prof. Pani has made an indelible mark in the fields of chemistry and environmental sciences.

An accomplished academician, Prof. Pani's contributions extend beyond research, inspiring countless students and fostering the next generation of scholars. He was honoured with the prestigious Soul of India Award in recognition of his exceptional contributions to nation-building. His enduring commitment to environmental sciences and education exemplifies the transformative power of academic leadership.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024



Upon their arrival, the Chief Guest Smt. Konyak, and the chair Prof. Pani, participated in the lightening ceremony and offered floral tributes to Bhagwan Birsa Munda.



The University anthem 'Kulgeet' was sung at the beginning of the programme.



Prof. Balaram Pani, the chair of the event felicitated the Chief Guest with a bouquet of flowers and *Angvastra*.

The Director of Centre for Tribal Studies, Prof. Soumendra M. Patnaik felicitated the Chair, Prof. Balaram Pani.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024



Dr. Avitoli G. Zhimo, Joint Director of Centre for Tribal Studies, in her welcome remarks, advocated for maintaining the agency of tribal communities in today's fast-evolving world. She reaffirmed the goal of CTS of seizing the opportunity to contribute meaningfully and realistically to a better, honourable, decent, and dignified living for all. She ended her welcome speech by greeting everyone in various tribal dialects.



Prof. Soumendra M. Patnaik, Director of Centre for Tribal Studies, reflected on the inspiring life and legacy of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and reaffirmed the Centre's commitment to adopting an India-centric perspective in tribal studies.

Excerpts of his speech:

Why do we celebrate Birsa Munda's spirit, and why did it take 75 years to acknowledge tribal communities' contributions to the freedom struggle? Traditionally, tribes have been studied through a Western evolutionary perspective, emphasising linear progression from hunting-gathering to settled cultivation. However, an India-centric approach reveals the profound historicity of tribes in Indian civilisation.

Birsa Munda emerges as a charismatic and divine figure, known for his healing abilities and spiritual presence whose life and works have influenced Sarat Chandra Roy, the father of Indian ethnography, who pioneered understanding tribes through a nationalist lens, highlighting their significant role in Indian history. Roy's unique approach introduced a traditional historical perspective alongside early, medieval, and modern historical classifications. He recognised the cyclical nature of Indian time concepts, contrasting with linear Western historical perspectives.

The Centre for Tribal Studies has been celebrating Birsa Munda's legacy through various student competitions, internships, and international workshops. The ultimate goal is to challenge stereotypes and develop a sensitive, sustainable understanding of tribal communities' relationship with nature and society.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024



Smt. S. Phangnon Konyak, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha from Nagaland and Chief Guest of the event, addressed the gathering of distinguished guests, faculty, and students. She expressed gratitude to the Centre for Tribal Studies for inviting her to celebrate Janjatiya Gaurav Divas and extended her greetings. She commended Prime Minister Narendra Modi for recognizing the contributions of tribal communities, a step that has highlighted the importance of tribal development nationally.

Smt. Konyak emphasised the value of tribal communities as repositories of traditional knowledge, stressing the urgency of documenting their oral traditions and practices. She applauded the Centre for Tribal Studies for fostering collaboration among faculties, researchers, and students for a noble cause and encouraged the youth to innovate for national progress. Assuring her support, she highlighted the role of academia in shaping policies that benefit tribal communities and drive impactful development.



Professor Balram Pani, Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi, and chair of the event, congratulated everyone and the Centre for Tribal Studies on celebrating Janjatiya Gaurav Divas. He acknowledged the necessity of such celebrations, emphasizing that history has often overlooked the contributions of tribal heroes to India's freedom struggle. Highlighting tribal communities' rich knowledge of nature, metallurgy, and sustainable agriculture, he underscored the scientific and cultural significance of their way of life.

Praising the Centre's remarkable progress in its inaugural year through conferences and seminars, he stressed the importance of research linking tribal traditions with modern science. He concluded by thanking the distinguished guests and audience.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024

As a run-up to the main event, the Centre for tribal Studies organized Essay writing and painting competitions, on 14th Nov. 2024 at the department of Anthropology, University of Delhi on the theme: **'Life and Works of Bhagwan Birsa Munda still remains a source of inspiration'**.

The competition attracted over 200 UG and PG students from various colleges and departments of Delhi University. **Prof. Manoj Kumar Singh**, the Joint Proctor of University of Delhi announced the winners. The chief Guest Smt. Konyak and Prof. Balaram Pani gave away the prizes to the winners.



FIRST
Essay Competition
Pratyashree Das
Department of Anthropology



SECOND
Essay Competition
Vipraja Rao
Department of English



THIRD
Essay Competition
Anusha Garg
Lady Shri Ram College



FIRST
Painting Competition
David Kamlianmang Simte
Rajdhani College



SECOND
Painting Competition
Saakshi Gurjar
Indraprastha College for Women



THIRD
Painting Competition
Harish Oraon
Ramanujan College

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024

The event also featured captivating performances of tribal and folk dances, along with an inspiring skit about Birsa Munda, presented by students from the Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Music, and Miranda House.



Assamese Fusion Dance

A mesmerising fusion dance performance that embodies the rich cultural heritage of Assam, expressing joy, unity, and the spirit of celebration. The energetic rhythms of Bihu, the graceful movements of the Bodo dance, the elegance of the Mishing steps, and the powerful expressions of Tiwa come together in a stunning display of harmony and diversity. Performed by Kristi Das, Pragyee Laskar, Kaankshaa Sharma, Baishali Deb, Jayee Deori, Kaushika Das, Debashree Bora (Miranda House, University of Delhi)



Rajasthani Folk Song

Kesariya Balam Aao Ni Padharo Mhare Des is a Rajasthani language song and is sung by Munshi Kha. This song is inspired from the story of Dhola and Maru and the folk traditions of courage and sacrifices of the Thar Desert. Balam means lover or loved one and Kesariya means saffron in colour. Performed by Nandini Bhattacharya, Department of Music and Fine Arts, University of Delhi



Karma Tribal Dance

The Karma dance is a tribal folk dance performed in India during the autumnal Karma Puja festival. The dance is performed by various tribal groups in the states of Chhattisgarh, such as Gonds, Binjhal, Kharia, Oraon, Kisan and Kol from Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa. The dance is characterised by rhythmic instruments like the mandar and dholak. Performed by Om Raj, Muskan, Sumana Das, and Pratyashee Das, Rajveer Singh Sethi, Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi



Ulgulan- Theatrical Drama

Ulgulan, -"The Revolution Proclaimed," is a theatrical drama that brings to life the powerful leadership of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. The play portrays his stirring speech, urging the people to rise up and fight for freedom against the British Raj, highlighting the significance of unity and self-determination in the struggle for independence. Performed by Vikas Patel, Rajveer Singh Sethi, Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024



Manipuri Dance

Panthou Mangol Khenjonglang, sung by Legendary Singer Late Aribam Tombishana Sharma in the year 1965, is a song that portrays the way of living in rural Manipuri society. The song is the epitome of rhyme, rhythm and simplicity. The song is about a maiden who weaves clothes for her loved ones. Through this song, one can vividly imagine the beauty of womanhood and the fragrance of the ginger lily, the hair bangs on her forehead, and the peace that she felt while weaving.

Performed by Jobalaxmi, Melody, Chewang; Dimple, Tanushree, Kanglei Miranda House, University of Delhi.



Ladakhi Tribal Dance

*Cha-rtse*s is a recent addition to the dance forms of Ladakh. A group of women perform it wearing Sulma (a traditional gown) with a colourful drape symbolizing the wings of a peacock. Its flowy gestures and moves emulate the bird. A song describing a group of peacocks, their flight over a village and a lady feeding them accompanies the *Cha-rtse*s renditions.

Performed by Bushra Jameel, Karma Pema Khando, Skarma Dockar; Department of Anthropology University of Delhi.



Fusion Folk Song

Tomay Hrid Majhare Rakhbo written by Dwij Bhushan is a Bengali Traditional Baul Folk song signifying the emotion of love followed by the song *Resham Firiri* which is a beautiful Gorkha song about longing. This is then followed by *Moner Manushero* a folk song of Lalon Fakir and finally it ends with another Gorkha song called *Herana Hera Kancha*; a rendition about love.

Performed by Nandini Bhattacharya, Anikyet Bhusal, Oishiki Mondal.



Vote of Thanks

Dr. Abigail Lalnuneng, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi delivered Vote of Thanks. She has been assisting the Centre for tribal Studies, in coordinating the Internship Programme under NEP.

She thanked all the stakeholders whose input has gone in making this event a great success.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024

The grand programme concluded with the National Anthem, followed by a group photograph.



Tribal Glory expressed through Essay Writing and Painting

On 14th November 2024, the Centre for Tribal Studies organised an Essay Writing and Painting Competition as a run-up event to the *Janjatiya Gaurav Divas*.

No. of students registered for the competition: 200

No. of participating colleges/departments: 30

Essay Writing Competition

'Life and Works of Bhagwan Birsa Munda still remains a source of Inspiration'

WINNERS

1. Pratyashree Das (Department of Anthropology, DU)
2. Vipraja Rao (Department of English, DU)
3. Anusha Garg (Lady Shri Ram college)
4. Priya Dwivedi (Miranda House)
5. Salangkrita Sarma (Maitriyi college)

Painting Competition

Tribal Freedom Fighters

Life world of Bhagwan Birsa Munda

Arts & Aesthetics among Tribals of India

WINNERS

1. David Kamlianmang Simte (Rajdhani college)
2. Saakshi Gurjar (Indraprastha College for Women)
3. Harish Oraon (Ramanujan College)
4. Ashutosh Kisku (Kirori Mal college)
5. Puneet Verma (Hans Raj college)
6. Juvaria Hashmi (Miranda House)



Painting Exhibition on "Life world of Indian Tribes"

In addition to this, another painting exhibition on the "Life world of Indian Tribes" was also organized by anthropologist turned civil servant Ms. Aashima Mehrotra who is currently the Executive Director of Heritage and Museums, Ministry of Railways, Government of India. A visual artist and painter of international repute, Ms. Aashima has participated as an invited artist in Russian- Atlantis Plain Air Workshop held in Moscow in 2022 where the focus was on the art of capturing the on going social life on the canvas through the hues of different colors





University of Delhi Centre for Tribal Studies



cordially invites you to

JANJATIYA GAURAV DIVAS 2024

150th Birth Anniversary of
Bhagwan Birsa Munda

Patron

Prof. Yogesh Singh
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
University of Delhi



Chief Guest

Smt. S Phangnon Konyak
Hon'ble Member of Parliament,
Rajya Sabha



*Chairperson,
Governing Body*

Prof. Shri Prakash Singh
Director, South Campus



Chair

Prof. Balaram Pani
Dean of Colleges



16 November 2024

10:00 AM

Conference Centre
University of Delhi

RSVP

Prof. Soumendra M Patnaik
Director, Centre for Tribal Studies



Dr. Avitoli G Zhimo
Joint Director,
Centre for Tribal Studies

Highlights

Cultural Performances

Screening of Reels on 'Tribes of India'

Prize Distribution for Essay and Painting Competition

Exhibition on the Life & Works of Bhagwan Birsa Munda



Centre for Tribal Studies, University of Delhi

cordially invites you to

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas

in celebration of the 150th Birth Anniversary of

Bhagwan Birsa Munda

Smt. S Phangnon Konyak

Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

*has kindly consented to be the
Chief Guest*

Professor Balaram Pani

Dean of Colleges

will chair the event.

SATURDAY | 16 NOVEMBER 2024 | 10:00 AM ONWARDS

Conference Centre, Faculty of Science, University of Delhi

R.S.V.P

Prof. Shri Prakash Singh

Chairperson, Governing Body, Centre for Tribal Studies
Director, South Campus
University of Delhi

**CENTRE FOR TRIBAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2024

16 Nov. 2024. | Conference Centre

Minute to minute programme

- 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM: Registration
- 10:30 AM - 10:55 AM: Screening of Reels on Tribes of India
- 11:00 AM - 11:02 AM: Lightening of the Lamp by Guests & Floral Tributes to Bhagwan Birsa Munda
- 11:02 AM - 11:04 AM: Kulgeet
- 11:04 AM - 11:06 AM: Felicitation of the Guests
- 11:06 AM - 11:10 AM: Welcome
- 11:10 AM - 11:20 AM: About the event
- 11:20 AM - 11:40 AM: Speech by Chief Guest
- 11:40 AM - 11:55 AM: Chair address
- 11:55 AM - 12:00 PM: Prize Distribution & Coordinator's Remarks
- 12:00 PM - 12:40 PM: Cultural Programme
- 12:40 PM - 12:45 PM: Vote of thanks
- 12:45 PM - 12:46 PM: National Anthem
- 12:46 PM - 01:00 PM: Group Photograph & Exhibition
- 01:00 PM - 02:00 PM: Lunch



CENTRE FOR TRIBAL STUDIES

announces

Essay Writing Competition

in commemoration of 150th Birth Anniversary of
Bhagwan Birsa Munda



Eligibility: Bonafide UG/PG student of Delhi University

14 November 2024

2:00 PM onwards

Department of Anthropology
Faculty of Science, University of Delhi
(North Campus)



Scan for Registration
and Guidelines
Last date:
13 Nov 2024, 3:00PM

cts.du.ac.in

GUIDELINES

- The essay competition will be conducted in conventional pen and paper mode by way of physical participation.
- No registration fee. No TA/DA will be paid.
- Interested participants should register by scanning the QR code, before 13 November 2024, 3:00PM.
- The topic of essay will be shared with participants on the spot at the time of the commencement of essay competition.
- The length of the essay should be around 750 words. Duration: 60 minutes.
- The essay may be written either in English or Hindi.
- The essay should reflect original thinking and presentation.
- Cash Prizes of Rs. 5000/-, Rs. 3000/- and Rs. 2000/- will be given to three winners.
- All registered participants shall be given a certificate.
- Certificates and Prize money shall be given on 16 November 2024, during the main event at 10:00AM at Conference Centre, University of Delhi (North Campus).

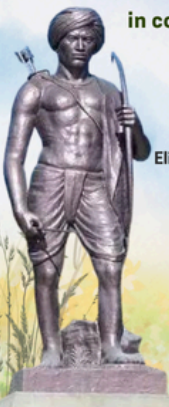


CENTRE FOR TRIBAL STUDIES

announces

PAINTING Competition

in commemoration of 150th Birth Anniversary of
Bhagwan Birsa Munda



Eligibility: Bonafied UG/PG student of Delhi University

14 November 2024

2:00 PM onwards

Department of Anthropology
Faculty of Science, University of Delhi (North Campus)



Scan for Registration
and Guidelines
Last date:
13 Nov 2024, 3:00PM

cts.du.ac.in

Guidelines

- The painting has to be prepared on the venue of the competition on themes relevant for the occasion.
- No registration fee. No TA/DA will be paid.
- Interested participants should register by scanning the QR code, before 13 November 2024, 3:00PM.
- Participants are required to reach the venue of the competition 15 minutes in advance of the scheduled starting time.
- The paper for painting will be provided (Size: A3) at the venue of the competition.
- Participants need to bring their colours, brush and other accessories.
- Each entry should have a title (4-5 words) and a brief introduction (20-30 words)
- Cash Prizes of Rs. 5000/-, Rs. 3000/- and Rs. 2000/- will be given to three winners.
- All registered participants will be given a certificate.
- Certificates and Prize money shall be given on 16 November 2024, during the main event at 10:00AM at Conference Centre, University of Delhi (North Campus).
- Duration: 90 minutes.



Celebrating the Constitution Day: 26 November 2024

Centre for Tribal Studies and Department of Anthropology celebrated the 78 years of India's democracy on the occasion of 26th November 2024, which is celebrated as the Constitution Day. On this occasion a panel discussion was organised with the purpose to make the students and other stakeholders aware of the fact that how the edifice of the nation is based on the Constitution of India.

In the beginning, Ms. Sonuja Nandinee Barik, PhD research scholar of the department read out the preamble setting the tone for the session. It was followed by an enlightening session. The panelists identified important attributes of constitution by treating it as most sacred text of India's democracy (Prof. R.P. Mitra). It marked that the constitution is the synthesis of the orientation of diverse cultures as far as the rule of law is concerned (Dr. D.V. Prasad) and that the individual responsibility as a good citizen constitutes the hallmark of constitutional values (Dr. Kennedy Singh). It also highlighted how Fundamental Rights as enshrined in the constitution needs certain preconditions in terms of responsibility towards the nation (Dr. Vipin Gupta), and the very fact that the Indian constitution has survived the test of time making us feel that it is not only a mere text but represents the very identity of Indians (Dr. Mitashree Srivastava). Following which Ms Sudeshna Biswas, a senior research scholar of the department, read out the eleven fundamental duties, to awaken a sense of duty.

The names of fifteen extraordinary women who were part of the constituent committee and their significant contributions were also discussed (Dr. Abigail Lalnuneng). The constitutional provisions under the Fifth and Sixth Schedule, for the administration of Scheduled Tribes and Area, ensuring the protection of their interest was read out by Ms. Sandhya Bhatt, research scholar of the department.

The panel discussion was attended by faculty members of the department, interns connected to the Centre for Tribal Studies and students of Department of Physics and Chemistry who are pursuing common papers in Anthropology along with students of Forensic Science.

Prof. S M. Patnaik, Director, Centre for Tribal Studies chaired the session. He concluded the panel discussion emphasizing that we need to pay our sincere gratitude to members of the Constituent Assembly, especially to the drafting committee headed by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. He also pointed out that there is a need to organise a national consultation on the Tribes and the Indian Constitution.

Mr. Dileep Kumar, research scholar of the department, facilitated the Oath of Allegiance on behalf of everyone revering the importance of the Constitution. The event concluded with the National Anthem by all.





Centre for Tribal Studies
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