

Ecology and Economy of the Kondhs of Orissa

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ABSTRACT Ecology and economy are most intimately related. Steward in cultural ecology maintained that there are some areas of a culture which are more related with its eco-system than are others. Of them economy was described by him as forming the culture core; and it is conditioned by changes among the ecological cycle. Following his method, the present paper analyzes the relation between ecology and economy as it exists in the Kondhs of Orissa. Briefly describing the physical area they inhabit, their economic life is detailed out in relation with the eco-system. It is stated that most of the developmental efforts for the people ignore ecological issues. Unless they are fully integrated with the development plan, it is argued here, the condition of the people will not change.