



Ph.D Research Scholar Profile

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Details of funding Agency/Scheme	
Title of the Research Topic	Worshiping Female Deities And Multi Dimensional Culture in Odisha (In Special Reference to Western Odisha.)
Abstract of the Research Work (Max.300 Words)	<p>This research delves into the veneration of female deities in Western Odisha, with a specific focus on the less explored realm of iconography and folk tribal goddesses. Through a comprehensive examination of these goddesses, this study sheds light on their distinct representations and their significance within the cultural tapestry of the region.</p> <p>A pivotal aspect of this investigation centers on the process of religious transformation that these tribal goddesses undergo. Tracing their journey, we observe how they are embraced by tantric Buddhism, which serves as a catalyst for their evolution within the religious landscape.</p>

This transformation culminates in their eventual assimilation into the broader Brahmanical pantheon, presenting a fascinating narrative of syncretism and cultural exchange.

Furthermore, the research scrutinizes the intricate connection between tantric culture and the worship of female folklore deities. This interplay reveals a symbiotic relationship, where the tantric tradition provides a framework for the reinterpretation and elevation of these goddesses, while in turn, these deities infuse the tantric practice with a rich tapestry of indigenous beliefs and rituals.

	<p>A noteworthy dimension of this study lies in its exploration of the yogini perspective within the context of female deity worship. By examining the roles and attributes attributed to these goddesses from a yogic lens, we gain deeper insights into their spiritual and metaphysical significance, illuminating the profound influence they exert on the religious landscape of Western Odisha. In essence, this research offers a multifaceted analysis of the worship of female deities in Western Odisha, uncovering layers of iconographic intricacies, tribal influences, and the intricate tapestry of religious transformation. It presents a comprehensive narrative that not only enriches our understanding of the cultural and religious dynamics of the region but also contributes to the broader discourse on goddess worship and religious syncretism.</p>
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Progress of the Research Work	Work on Progress
Journal Publication	4
Seminar/Conference Attended	7
Awards	2