



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS

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WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS-2023

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**CTD: 25CR - PERFORMING ARTS, CREATIVE EXPRESSION, AND RECREATION
SUB-DOMAIN: 1. PERFORMING ARTS, CRAFT, MUSIC, AND AESTHETICS**

**PANEL TITLE:
PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF CRAFT AND CRAFTSMANSHIP IN
ODISHA**

**CONVENOR: DR. MINAKETAN BAG
CO-CONVENOR: DR. MURALIDHAR MAJHI**

ABSTRACT

Today houses are decorated with stunning natural fabrics with rich pattern of colour combinations. People are impressed and excited in displaying natural fabrics such as pottery metalwork, textiles, furniture, and other household articles made by artisans. Handicraft is expression of creativity of craftsmen. Most handicrafts have ethnic affiliations and a unique style. These are invested in the production of various distinct products. These products reflect cultural and emotional expression of embedded traditions. Odisha, an eastern state is well known for its stupendous varied crafts culture. Its quality in superiority and luminosity has bewitched the pilgrims, travellers, and visitors across the country and overseas. Simple yet very sophisticated handicrafts are produced to meet day to day livelihoods. It includes tie and dye hand woven fabrics, earthenware, stone carving, decorations, that adorn fabrics, furniture of and articles for daily use as also for ritual purposes. The artistic activities are interwoven with the livelihood practises. These also symbolize artisan's culture and ethos. These crafts signify the place of origin, territoriality of community, sustainable patterns of economy and their historicity. The handicrafts manufacturing is being revived at a rapid pace and is gaining substantial space displacing machine-made products. The revival has helped people adopt different set of priorities based on eco-friendly norms. This panel proposes discussion among researchers, the academia, and the social workers to comprehend variety and veracity in sustaining traditional forms of craft. We also propose to document different methodological approaches for preservation, protection, and sustainability of different craft forms in Odisha. Craftsmen are integral to any such discourse, and we encourage participants to share stories of crafts personnel and their journeys. We also propose to invite craftsperson to share their stories of success and struggle.

Keywords: Crafts, Craftsmen, technique, livelihood, Culture

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