

**NATIONAL PARKS: LANDSCAPES OF JUSTICE OR
LANDSCAPES OF DISPOSSESSION? E/VALUATING
BHITARKANIKA NATIONAL PARK**

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI

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by

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “**NATIONAL PARKS: LANDSCAPES OF JUSTICE OR LANDSCAPES OF DISPOSSESSION? E/VALUATING BHITARKANIKA NATIONAL PARK**” is being submitted by **MS. DIPTIMAYEE NAYAK** to the **Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi** for the award of the degree of **Doctor of Philosophy**. This thesis is a record of bonafide work carried out by her under our guidance and supervision. In our opinion the thesis has reached the standards fulfilling the requirements for submission relating to the degree.

The results contained in this thesis have not been submitted to any other University/Institute for the award of any degree or diploma.

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ABSTRACT

This work brings up a contestation into perspective- the *raison d'être* behind the creation of national parks ought not to exclude the rights of original inhabitants- the rights of man ought not to be shelved at the cost of rights of nature and vice-versa.

This thesis attempts to-

- a. Analyze the idea of national parks and their creation as also the physical, social, economic consequences of formation of national parks.
- b. Problematize and analyze ecotourism and its policy mandates, and if it is a viable option that could promote welfare of both nature as well as the human beings. In this it brings forth the contradictory pulls of policies which foresee human beings as destroyers of nature, hence creating and establishing the turf battle between the human and natural spheres, while at the same time, ironically, espousing ecotourism as a method that could enhance a man-nature relationship.
- c. Posit the contradictory discourses on valuating natural resources and treating the commodification of nature enveloping resource allocation and distribution in an ambit of public finance.

By studying and evaluating national parks and problematizing significant parameters like resource allocation and policy frameworks for ecotourism in the context of national parks and protected areas, this work seeks to draw out and draw upon the effect of resource allocation on varied groups (tourists and locals) in the Bhitarkanika National Park (BNP), Odisha,¹ India.

This study employs both qualitative and quantitative data in order to study park and people relations, and methods employed towards establishing conservation.

¹ The official name Odisha is in place since March 2011 after the constitution amendment bill was passed in the assembly of Odisha. Retrieved 11 June, 2014, from <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Orissas-new-name-is-Odisha/articleshow/7780712.cms>

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GLOSSARY

Odia Terms as Locally Used

(Translation into English)

Ānchal adhikari	Regional authority
Andā kara	Tax on Egg
Atak jungle	Reserve forest
Chhadā jungle	Open forest
Dalei	Tribal caste
Garjat	Born in a fort
Gaucher (<i>Pr: Ga+u+char</i>)	Pasture
Hintal	Mangrove/s
Killā	Fort
Naliāghāsha	Type/s of grass used for weaving baskets
Niyamābali	Rule book
Pāhi	Non-local/non-resident
Pās	Permit
Pattā	Property right
Pauti (<i>Pr: Pa+u+ti</i>)	User right
Pinchhā	Leaves of mangroves
Rakshit jungle	Protected jungle
Thani	Local resident
Odiā	Language of the state of Odisha
Orissā	One of the states of India (renamed ODISHA in 2011)

ACRONYMS

BCA	Benefit Cost Analysis
BEES	Bhitarakanika Ecological and Economic Development Society
BNHS	Bombay Natural History Society
BNP	Bhitarkanika National Park
CoPs	Conference of Parties
CVM	Contingent Valuation Method
EDC	Eco Development Committee
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographic Information System
GISc	Geographic Information Science
GLM	Generalised Linear Model
GOI	Government of India
GSNB	Generalised Stratified Negative Binomial
ICDP	Integrated Community Development Project
ICZMP	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan
IFA	Indian Forest Act
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
IUPN	International Union for Preservation of Nature
MA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forests
NDVI	Non-differential Vegetation Index
NP	National Park
NSSO	National Sample Survey Organisation
NV	Number of Visitation
OLS	Ordinary least Squares Estimates
OTDC	Odisha Tourism Development and Catering Centre

PA	Protected Areas
SHG	Self Help Group
SNB	Stratified Negative Binomial
TCM	Travel Cost Method
TEEB	The Economics of Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity
TEV	Total Economic Value
TIES	International Ecotourism Society
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Program
USNPS	United States National Park Service
VIF	Variance Inflation Factor
WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas
WTA	Willingness to Accept
WTO	World Tourism Organisation
WTP	Willingness to Pay
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
ZTNB	Zero Truncated Negative Binomial
ZTP	Zero Truncated Poisson