

## **Brief Biosketch**

### **Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patra**

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Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patra is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Coordinator of the Centre of Excellence in Studies on Tribal and Marginalized Communities (CoE in STMC) – a WB-OHEPEE Programme at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar. Dr. Patra did his Masters in Anthropology from NEHU, Shillong and both Ph.D (2002) and MA in Japanese (2003) from University of Delhi (2002). He has postdoctoral research experiences at International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden University in the Netherlands (2004, 2005-2009), Kyoto University, Japan (2005) and University of Sussex in Brighton, UK (2010, 2013-14). Dr. Patra has extensively worked among the tribal communities of the Central Himalayan region, Odisha, Maharashtra and Gujarat in the areas of demography, health and nutrition. Apart from tribal related issues, he has worked in the field of socio-ethical and policy issues in medical biotechnologies such as genomics and stem cell therapy in a cross-national and cross-cultural comparative perspective of what is happening in Asian countries especially in India and Japan. Dr. Patra is also coordinating the Japanese Language Pilot Project (JLPP) at Utkal University. He is also the Convenor of Institutional Ethics Committee of Utkal University (since 2021). He has successfully supervised two Ph.D and eleven M.Phil scholars, five PhD and two M.Phil scholars are working under his guidance and Dr. Patra has published four books and more than 60 research articles in peer-reviewed journals and as book-chapters. His current research areas of interest include medical anthropology in general and maternal & child health, nutritional health and biomedical ethics in particular.