

## The Jarawa

### Student's Guide

The student's guide provides a list of resources with short summaries, around the issue at hand that the students may engage with independently. The guide also lists a set of conversation starters that may be used inside or outside the classroom to engage students in debate and discussion around the theme.

#### Resources:

##### Film:

- *'Mahua Memoirs' (2007)*

This documentary by Vinod Raja looks at the lives of tribals in the hills of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand and Chattisgarh that are changing due to the disruptive mining that is being done in the name of development.

*Trailer and film available for purchase on:* <http://magiclanternmovies.in/film/mahua-memoirs>

- *'There is a Fire in your Forest' (2001)*

Set in Kanha, Madhya Pradesh - the site of a famous Tiger Park, this documentary film directed by Krishnendu Bose confronts the politics involved in conservation through a vivid account of the problems faced by the adivasis settled in Kanha, where the policies protect the tigers often at the expense of human life.

*Trailer available at:* <http://magiclanternmovies.in/film/there-fire-your-forest>

##### Literature:

- *'Time Ticking for India's Jarawa Tribe'*

Deborshi Chaki's eye opening articles describes the various threats to extinction faced by the Jarawa tribe, right from tourism, the infiltration of an alien culture and poaching to the construction of the Andaman Trunk Road that cuts right through the heart of the Jarawa Settlement and brings a number of ills along with it.

*Available at:* <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2014/01/time-ticking-india-jarawa-tribes-20141314281424904.html>

- *'Jarawa Man Speaks Out Against Sexual Abuse of Young Women'*

In a horrifying audio clip, a Jarawa man has spoken out about the torture and sexual oppression faced by the women of the Jarawa tribe at the hands of the tourists and settlers. He has also identified regular poachers and fishermen who enter their settlement and bring a number of problems along with them.

Available at: <http://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/jarawa-man-speaks-out-against-sexual-abuse-of-young-women-43409>

- *'What Ails the Jarawa People in the Andamans?'*

This article provides four different points of view on the conditions of the Jarawa settlement and outlines various ways in which efforts could be made to help them mitigate the damage that has been caused.

A list of other articles are also provided at the end.

Available at: <http://www.downtoearth.org.in/coverage/what-ails-the-jarawa-people-in-the-andamans-44571>

- *'Because Andaman's Forests are Jarawa Infested'*

This news report by The Hindu critiques documents published by the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Government of India and establishes an alternative narrative for the Jarawas that recognizes them as being victims of a colonial government. It also links an eye opening video which further establishes this point.

Available at: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/because-andamans-forests-are-jarawa-infested/article2811842.ece>

- *'The Jarawa'- in depth material by Survivor International*

Survivor International has provided a page full of details and material on the Jarawa tribe and the problems they face on a daily basis due to the construction of the Andaman Trunk road. It has provided a channel for sexual oppression, poaching and culture infiltration at the hands of tourists, local settlers and fishermen. The article also provides a link to help take action against the interference by the ATR by writing to the Indian Government

Available at: <http://www.survivalinternational.org/tribes/jarawa>

- *'Delivering the Jarawa'* by Pankaj Sekhsaria published in Volume 8, Issue 17 of Frontline

This article describes in detail the ups and downs of various court mandates and government decisions that are being implemented to protect the Jarawa settlement in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Available at: <http://www.frontline.in/static/html/fl1817/18170650.htm>

- *'The Last Wave' (2014)* by Pankaj Sekhsaria published by Harper Collins India

Although this is a fictional novel, it draws heavily from research that was conducted by Pankaj Sekhsaria. The story is set in the Andamans with the character of Harish who has a chance encounter with the Jarawa tribe and realises that he wants to do something about the threats the Jarawa are facing. The novel goes on to look at different aspects of race and tribes, ecology and culture that are currently being threatened.

*Book available for purchase at:* <http://www.amazon.in/The-Last-Wave-Island-Novel/dp/9351361918>

### Videos:

- *'Human Safari: Observing the Jarawa'*

This 12 min video is documentary proof by a foreign national about how Human Safari is being practiced by driving a bus full of tourists on a road that runs through the Jarawa reserve. It is a disturbing video that reflects the low levels we have stooped to.

*Available at:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdqDqrPAZcE>

- *'There You Go!'*, story by Oren Ginzburg and narrated by David Mitchell. Story first published in 2005 by Hungry Man Books

*Available at:* <http://www.survivalinternational.org/thereyougo>

A short, satirical, animated film about the language and justifications used to displace tribals in the name of 'sustainable development'. A slideshow of the story is available on the same link as well.

*Available at:* <http://www.survivalinternational.org/thereyougo>

### Conversation Starters:

1. What are the main threats to extinction that the Jarawa tribe face daily?
2. Has the State done more harm to them in their efforts to help them?
3. What major changes can the State now make in order to protect the Jarawas?
4. What is a human safari? What effects does it have on human dignity and respecting cultural difference?
5. How can the Jarawas protect themselves and their tribe from the harm perpetrated on them on a daily basis?

6. What are the different facets that make up the Jarawa identity? Why do you think a hunting-foraging livelihood is crucial to them?
7. What kind of education might be relevant to someone whose world is very different, but is still required to interact with ours?