

## **IGNOU REGIONAL CENTRE, KORAPUT**

### **Report on Exposure Visit of Children of Adopted Village “UMURI” to Tribal Museum on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2024**

Date of Visit: 16-11-2024

Location: Tribal Museum, Koraput

Organised by IGNOU Regional Centre, Koraput

Participants: 45 Children from Umuri School, Koraput Block, Koraput

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### **Introduction**

An exposure visit to the Tribal Museum was organized for the children of Elementary School of adopted village Umuri of Koraput Block, Koraput as part of Janjati Gaurav Diwas on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2024. After taking proper permission from Block Education Officer and Sarapanch of that village and in consultation with the teachers of that school the programme arranged on Saturday after completion of school hour at 10 am.



The Regional Director, Dr. Latika Mishra and supporting staff of RC and three teachers of that school accompanied the children during the exposure visit. One mini bus was arranged for this trip and 45 children of class-VII and VIII were included in that visit. The purpose of the programme is to promote cultural awareness and understanding of the rich heritage of indigenous tribes of this region. The visit aimed to provide the children with an immersive

experience that would help them learn about the diverse traditions, art forms, customs, and history of tribal communities.



## Objective of the Visit

The primary objectives of the visit were:

- To educate children about the history and culture of indigenous tribes, including Bonda, Koya, Durura, Paraja, Kond, Gadaba etc.
- To provide firsthand experience and understanding of tribal art, crafts, and cultural artifacts of tribal communities and their way of life.
- To enhance the children's knowledge about biodiversity and the environment through tribal practices and conservation efforts.





## Overview of the Museum

The tribal museum has situated near the temple site. Both function as sister institutions of Sabara Srikhetra. The Tribal Museum at Koraput was established to preserve the cultural heritage of the local tribes and promote their arts, crafts, dances, and music. The museum has on display a collection of stone sculptures, metal images, and objects, terracotta, wooden objects, paintings, documents, rare objects and textiles among other things. The museum provides a deep understanding of tribal people and their daily lives of this region.



## Highlights of the Visit

- Guided Tour:

The children were given a guided tour by a museum educator who explained the significance of each artifact and exhibit. They learned about the history of different tribes, their lifestyle, festivals, and relationship with nature.

- Interactive Displays:

Several interactive displays allowed the children to touch and explore replicas of tribal artifacts. Children also noted down many things and clarified their queries and doubts during the visit. This hands-on experience helped foster a deeper understanding of tribal culture and traditions.

- Tribal Art and Craft:

A major attraction was the section showcasing tribal art and crafts. The children had the opportunity to see intricate jewelry, textiles, paintings, hunting tools and pottery from various tribal regions.

- Musical Instruments and Dance:

The museum featured tribal music instruments and performances. Children observed traditional instruments which they use during festivals and marriages.

- Tribal Clothing and Accessories:

One of the most engaging parts of the visit was the display of tribal clothing and accessories. The children were fascinated by the variety of materials used by different tribes for their clothing, including animal skins, beads, and natural fibers.



### **Visit to Jagannath Temple of Koraput (Sabar Shriketra)**

There is a big Jagannath Temple, known as the Sabara Srikhetra near the Tribal Museum. The biggest Temple of the District, which has been constructed in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Now a days, this temple becomes the main attraction for the Koraput town. The pilgrims enjoy the blessings of the presiding deities of almost every centre of pilgrimage (Peethas) of Bharata, instilled in a second enclosure, below the main.

After the visit of Tribal Museum children visited Jagannath Temple of Koraput.



## Conclusion

The exposure visit to the Tribal Museum proved to be a valuable learning experience for the children. It allowed them to connect with the diverse cultures of indigenous tribes in a way that was both educational and engaging.

After this visit snacks provided to all children. After that the children were returned to school with the Escort teachers. The success of this visit highlights the importance of such exposure programs, which not only contribute to the children's academic growth but also foster empathy, respect, and appreciation for different cultures.

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