

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**MODERNIZATION OF TRIBAL WALL PAINTINGS: A STUDY ON THE
SANTHAL COMMUNITY OF DHATKIDIH VILLAGE OF GALUDIH, PURBA-
SINGBHUM, JHARKHAND**

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Abstract: *Painting has been one of the oldest forms of expression for many different tribal populations. Wall painting is one of the many types of visual art. In recent times, tribal wall paintings have been modernized. The present study aimed to understand the modernization of wall painting among the tribal population of Jharkhand. The observation was done on a Santhal population residing in Dhatkidih village in East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand, approximately one and a half kilometers from Galudih railway station. The village consists of seventy-five households with a population of 350, distributed among several Santhal clans and Ho tribal populations. The observation includes the paintings made outside each tribal household's wall, reflecting several artistic styles. It was observed that modernization affected the tools and techniques used in wall paintings. New styles were incorporated into paintings instead of traditional art for wall paintings. Interviews reveal the main reasons for the change were the cost efficiency and durability of modern tools and colours. During the interviews, it was revealed that migration to urban areas for wage earning and the use of modern smartphones have led to changes in traditional paintings. It should be noted that the study's conclusion may be limited due to the unavailability of traditional wall paintings.*

Keywords: Wall-painting, modernization, Santhal, Galudih, Jharkhand

Communicated: 18.12.2023

Revised: 25.12.2023

Accepted: 26.12.2023