



Brief Bio

KASI Eswarappa, Ph. D. (Hyderabad)

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Dr. Kasi Eswarappa is working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Tribal Studies, Art, Culture & Folk Literature, Faculty of Tribal Studies, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh, India.

He has completed his M.A., M. Phil & Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Hyderabad. His Ph.D. thesis is "An Anthropological Study of Livelihoods: The Case of Two Sugali Settlements in Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh." His area includes broadly Anthropology and the interdisciplinary areas of Development Studies, Area Studies, Tribal Studies, Tribal Development & Politics, Political Sociology, Women leadership and Governance, Marginality and Politics, NGOs, Civil Society, and South Asia.

His research has been published in internationally reputed Journals such as Sustainability Science, Critical Sociology, South Asia Research, Journal of Developing Societies, SAGE Open, Journal of Asian and African Studies, South Asian Survey, and Contemporary Voice of Dalit. He has authored a book entitled "Anthropology and Development in a Globalised India: An Ethnography of Sericulture from the South", Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, U.K. He has edited 06 books and jointly edited three special issues in reputed journals such as the Journal of Developing Societies (Sage), Romanian Yearbook of Anthropology, and Man in India. He has also contributed several entries to different encyclopaedias, such as the Encyclopaedia of Psychology and Religion, Gerontology and Population Ageing, and the Palgrave Encyclopaedia of Global Security Studies.

He has been an *Associate Editor* at SN Social Sciences (Springer) journal since 1st July 2022. He is also an *Academic Editor* (PLOS ONE Editorial Board) for PLOS ONE journal since March, 2024.

He is also an *Editorial Board Member* for Sage journals: South Asia Research, SAGE Open (Humanities), and S.N. Social Sciences (Springer). *Invited Referee* for following peer reviewed Journals: Human Ecology an Interdisciplinary Journal; International Journal of Anthropology & Ethnology; SN Social Sciences (Springer), Heliyon (Wiley), Critical Policy Studies, Community Development, Asian Ethnicity & Development in Practice (Taylor & Francis), Critical Sociology, Contemporary Voice of Dalit, Journal of Asian & African Studies; South Asia Research; Social Science Computer Review (Sage) & SAGE Open.

Kasi has professional membership in various national and international bodies. Kasi elected as **Joint Secretary & Governing Council member of INCAA** (2023-2025). He was also elected as Executive Board Member of ISA-RC-18 & IPSA-RC-06- Board Member (2023-28). He is *Program Coordinator* of RC-18 Political Sociology for 5th ISA Forum of Sociology (6-11 July, 2025) Rabat, Morocco. He is a member of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), the International Sociological Association (ISA), The European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), & International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES). He is a Life Member of

the Ethnographic and Folk Culture Society (EFCS), Lucknow, Indian Anthropological Society (IAS), Jhargram, West Bengal, Indian Science Congress Association, Kolkata, Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA), West Bengal, and Indian Sociological Society (ISS), New Delhi.

Kasi is **Programme Coordinator** of RC-18 Political Sociology for 5th ISA Forum of Sociology (6-11 July, 2025) Rabat, Morocco. He was an Executive Board Member of the Research Committee on Political Sociology-ISA-RC18/ IPSA-RC06 (2014-18) and Programme Coordinator (with Stephanie Alenda) of RC-18 Political Sociology for the 2018 ISA World Congress of Sociology held from 15-21 July 2018 at Toronto, Canada.

Important Publications

- 2025.** Joint paper (with Sreehari, KR) 'Beyond the Veil of Death: Evolving Traditions in the Ancestral Rituals of the Irula tribe of Attapadi, South India', *OMEGA: Journal of Death and Dying*, Pp: 1-18. First Published online February 10, 2025.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00302228251319828>
- 2024** Joint paper (with M.Roja Lakshmi) 'Quotidian Beliefs and Practices in Maternal and Child Health Care: An Empirical Study Among the Irula Tribe of Tamil Nadu', *Contemporary Voice of Dalit*, 16 (3): 280-294. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2455328X211066193>
- 2024** Joint paper (with Sreehari, KR) 'Continuity and Change of Folklore among Irulas of Kerala: Discourse Analysis of Tribal Folk Songs from the South Indian State of India', *Contemporary Voice of Dalit*, Pp:1-17. First Published online January 24, 2024.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2455328X231223050>
- 2023** Joint paper (Ananya Acherjee & R. Hariharan) 'Impact of Informal Online Learning on the Lives of Tribal Women: An Ethnographic Study from Central India', *Contemporary Voice of Dalit*, Pp:1-18. First Published online 01 December, 2023.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2455328X231207515>
- 2022** 'The Complexity of Tribal Question in India: The Case of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups', *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 1-18; First Published Online Sept', 18, 2022.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00219096221123748>
- 2022** Joint paper (with Atrayee Saha) 'Mapping Self-Help Groups (SHGs) as Alternatives to Capitalist Development: An Ethnographic Enquiry from India', *Sustainability Science*, 17 (4): 1263-1271. <https://link.springer.com/journal/11625/volumes-and-issues/17-4>
- 2021** Joint paper (with Atrayee Saha) 'Pushed to the Margins: The Crisis Among Tribal Youth in India during COVID-19', *Critical Sociology*, 47 (4-5): 641-655;
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920521994195>
- 2021** 'Community-based Organizations (CBOs) and Their Role in the Development of Women: A Case from Andhra Pradesh', *Contemporary Voice of Dalit*, 13 (1): 34-49.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2455328X20922437>
- 2020.** Joint paper (with Gladis S Mathew) 'Cultivating Pathways of a Critical and Humanistic Anthropology: Walking and Meditating with B.K. Roy Burman', Special Issue on Social Theorising in Contemporary India: Critique, Creativity and Transformations, *Indian Anthropologist*, 50 (1): 75-92. ISSN: 0970-0927. <http://ssrn.com/abstract=3982365>
- 2019** Joint Essay with Atrayee Saha 'Vulnerability and Vulnerable Groups of People' In S. Romaniuk, M. Thapa and P. Marton. (eds.), *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Global Security Studies*, Cham: Palgrave Macmillan. Online ISBN: 978-3-319-74336-3
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-74336-3_369-1
- 2017** 'Livelihoods, Poverty and Development of Adivasis: Reflections from a Village in South India', *Contemporary Voice of Dalit*, 9 (2): 194-208. ISSN: 2455-328X
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2455328X17723390>
- 2016** Joint paper (with Jacob Kalle), 'Lift Irrigation Schemes in Andhra Pradesh: Technology as a Boon or Bane?', *South Asia Research*, 36 (3): 377-396. ISSN: 0262-7280;
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0262728016663276>
- 2015** 'Marginal Communities in Drought-prone Regions: The Role of NGOs in Watershed Development in South India', *Journal of Developing Societies*, 31 (1): 98-124.

ISSN: 0169-796X; <https://doi.org/10.1177/0169796X14562937>

2013 'Role of Women in Sericulture and Community Development: A Study from South Indian Village' *SAGE Open*. September, 3 (3): 1-11. Online ISSN: 2158-2440.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/2158244013502984>

2011c 'Developmental Initiatives and Sericulture in a South Indian Village', *South Asia Research*, 31(3):213- 229; ISSN: 0262-7280; <https://doi.org/10.1177/026272801103100302>

2011a 'Poverty and Development in a Marginal Community: Case Study of a Settlement of the Sugali Tribe in Andhra Pradesh, India', *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 46 (1), 5-18. ISSN: 0021- 9096. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0021909610388480>

Books: Authored Book

2009 'Anthropology and Development in a Globalized India: An Ethnography of Sericulture from the South', Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. ISBN: 978-1-4438-1345-7, ISBN: 1-4438-1345-1; (Reviewed in the *Indian Anthropologist Journal*, Issue 40(1), 2010; & *Sociological Bulletin*, 60 (1) 2011).

Edited Books/Journal:

2017 with (Julia Guenther, University of Vienna) Emergence of Subjectivity Formations: Social-Anthropological Discourses from India. People's Literature Publication OPC Pvt. Ltd.: Navi Mumbai. ISBN: 9788193252536.

<http://peoplesbookshop.com/product/emergence-subjectivity-formations/>

2015 Guest Edited a special issue with (Julia Guenther, Austrian University) 'Globalisation and People at the Margins: Experiences from the Global South', *Journal of Developing Societies*, 31 (1): 1-7. ISSN: 0169-796X. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0169796X14562122>

2013 (with R. Siva Prasad, University of Hyderabad) Issues and Perspectives in Anthropology Today. Serials Publications: New Delhi. ISBN: 9788183873048

http://serialspublications.com/books/index.php?route=product/product&path=5&product_id=3053

2009 (with Ramesh C. Malik) Theory and Practice of Ethnography: Readings from the Periphery, IGRMS, Bhopal & Rawat Publications, Jaipur and New Delhi. ISBN: 81-316-0306-7;

http://rawatbooks.com/book_more_detail.aspx?id=142

Project Grant

- PI of the Major research project titled *An Empirical Study on Artistic and Folk Traditions of Tribal People of Madhya Pradesh*, sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi and total grant of the project is 19 lakhs and of two years duration (2024-25-2026-27). Award No: 92/2024-25/ICSSR/RP/MJ/OBC dated 07/03/2025.
- Co-PI of the project titled *Socio- Anthropological Study of Seven Communities in Madhya Pradesh*, by Madhya Pradesh Tribal Research & Development Institute (TR&DI), Bhopal, MP, and project grant of Rs. 22.91 Lakhs.

Workshops/ conference panels

2024. Chaired a Panel (P-119- jointly with Hannah Wadle, Poland) 'Turning into Emerging Spatialities: Methodological Propositions' in The 18th Biennial Conference of EASA 2024, titled Doing and Undoing with Anthropology held at University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain during 22-26 July 2024. <https://easaonline.org/conferences/easa2024/>

2023. Chaired a panel (jointly with Atrayee Saha) P42 '**Pandemics and State Response in an Unwell World: An Anthropological Analysis from south Asian Societies**', in the Biennial Conference ASA 2023: An Unwell World? Anthropology in a Speculative Mode, 11-14 April, 2023, SOAS, London, UK. <https://theasa.org/conferences/asa2023/>

2023. Co-Chair a Technical Session- IV: Tribal Folklore and Literature (Online), in Two Days National Seminar on '**Tribal Society, Linguistic Landscape and Indigenous Knowledge: Plan for Conservation and Promotion**', organised by the Department of Tribal Studies, AC&FL, Faculty of Tribal Studies, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak,

MP, in collaboration with Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru, Government of India, during 20-21 March, 2023.

- 2022. Chaired a panel 078: Health Emergencies and State Response: The Impact of Pandemic on South Asian Communities**, in 17th European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) Biennial Conference (Virtual), organised by the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy, and Politics at Queen's University Belfast, 26-29 July, 2022.
<https://easaonline.org/conferences/easa2022/programme#11458>

Kasi has presented more than 30 research papers in national and international conferences in India and abroad to his credit.

Important Conference/Seminar presentations

- 2024.** Presented a paper **Empirical Discourse of Tribal Land Alienation in India: A Glimpse from the Countryside** in a panel (P50) Mapping Rural and Tribal Livelihoods and Quest for Sustainability in the Contemporary South Asian Societies in the World Anthropology Union Congress 2024, 11-15 November, Johannesburg, South Africa. <https://waucongress.org/>
- 2024.** Presented a paper titled **Methodological Propositions in Diverse Spatialities: Anthropological Reflections**, in a Panel (P-119) 'Turning into Emerging Spatialities: Methodological Propositions' in The 18th Biennial Conference of EASA 2024, titled Doing and Undoing with Anthropology held at University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain during 22-26 July 2024.
- 2023.** Presented a paper jointly with (Ananya Acherjee) titled **Empowerment of Tribal Women: A Comparative Study on Gond and Santhal Tribes during the Pandemic** in a Panel 'Pandemics and State Response in an Unwell World: An Anthropological Analysis from south Asian Societies', in the Biennial Conference ASA 2023: An Unwell World? Anthropology in a Speculative Mode organized by SOAS, London, UK, during 11-14 April. <https://theasa.org/conferences/asa2023/>
- 2023.** Presented a paper titled **Affirmative Action, Marginal Communities and the Post-Colonial State in an Unwell World** in a Panel 'Pandemics and State Response in an Unwell World: An Anthropological Analysis from south Asian Societies', in the Biennial Conference ASA 2023: An Unwell World? Anthropology in a Speculative Mode, organized by SOAS, London, UK, during 11-14 April. <https://theasa.org/conferences/asa2023/>
- 2023.** Presented a paper jointly with (Ananya Acherjee) titled **Unheard Voices of Tribal Women: An Ethnographic Exploration from the Countryside of India (Online)** in Interdisciplinary Gendered Talks on March 10, 2023, organised by University of Bucharest's Gender Studies Platform, University of Bucharest, Romania. <https://gep.unibuc.ro/platforma-icub/>
- 2022.** Presented a paper jointly with (Atrayee Saha) titled **Pandemics and State Response: A Socio-Anthropological Analysis of West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh States**, in the panel 078: Health Emergencies and State Response: The Impact of Pandemic on South Asian Communities, in 17th European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) Biennial Conference, organised by the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy, and Politics at Queen's University Belfast, 26-29 July.
<https://easaonline.org/conferences/easa2022/programme#11458>

Pedagogical Training and Certification/Workshop

- 2018.** Attended **Three Day Workshop** on *Making Connection: An Introduction to Ethnography (Theory and Practice)* organised by the European Research Council (ERC) Connectors Study, Department of Sociology, Goldsmiths, University of London and Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, during June 09-11.

Ph.D. Guidance:

Sreehari, KR- Title: Ethno-Artistry of Irulas of Attapadi: An Ethnographic Account on Artistic Engagement of Tribe in Kerala (Supervisor)

Parikshit Krishna Sharma – Title: Globalization's impact on tribal women's empowerment in Pushprajgarh block of Anuppur district, Madhya Pradesh (Co-Supervisor)

PhD Examiner:

- ‘Livelihoods on the Edge: Reconciling Forest-based Livelihoods, Conservation, and Poverty Alleviation in the Conservation Reserve of the Western Ghats’ by Kiran (Gauri) Mallapur, UNE Business School at the University of New England (UNE), Armidale, Australia, March 2018.
- ‘Tribes in Telugu Land-History, Cultural Life and Changing Status: A Socio-Historical Study of Banjaras in Mulugu District of Telangana State’, Department of History, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India, March, 2022.
- ‘Growth of Irrigation Works and Socio-Economic Transformation in Nalgonda District: A Case Study of Nagarjunasagar Left Canal’, The Faculty of Social Sciences, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India, July, 2022.
- ‘Dynamics of Religion, Caste and Economy: A Case Study of Muslims of Seemanchal Region, Bihar’, by Jiyaul Haque, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi-110067, India, August, 2023.

Other Academic Contributions:

- **External Evaluator** in Social Sciences Panel for **Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)**
- Resource Person –Teacher Recruitment Board (TRB), Government of Tamil Nadu
- **Evaluator** –Evaluation of Answer Scripts (Anthropology) of IGNOU-TEE
- **Paper Setter/ Expert**- Anthropology- University of Rajasthan (URATPG-2024)
- **External Subject Expert**-Kannur University- preparation of Question papers, MA program (Tribal and Rural Sociology)

**(KASI ESWARAPPA)**