

In a Remote Area: Categories of the Person and Illness among The *Desia* of Koraput, Orissa

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ABSTRACT The paper deals with worldviews of the *Desia* people in Koraput District, Orissa. Concerned with categories of the person and concepts of illness, the introduction gives a short overview of basic ideas of medical anthropology. Then the idea of a Koraput Complex is explained, showing that different tribal communities share the same values. This is also true for the field of medical treatment, which includes the concept of the person and the body. Healing experts have similar tasks and treat illnesses in the same way in different tribal communities of Koraput District. A main feature of illness can be summarized under the idea of "too much moving." Away from their respective places, gods, ghosts, human beings and even organs in the body move around, creating disorder. Then the order has to be re-established through rituals.