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Facets of Orissan Studies — An Introduction to Current Interdisciplinary Research on Orissa

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ABSTRACT Research on Orissa has been extensive and diverse and has produced many novel findings throughout history from earliest times until today. At the 17th annual *European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies*, which took place in Heidelberg, Germany, in 2002, a panel was devoted to regional studies of Orissa. The participants shared their academic perspectives and presented richly nuanced case studies of their socio-cultural research on Orissa. Topics discussed included language, religion, subaltern thought, gender, social change and art. This Special Issue of the *Journal of Social Sciences*, which contains revised versions of some of the papers presented at the conference, provides a glimpse of the broad spectrum of modern research on Orissa.

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