

Forest Governance and Tribal Welfare in India

A state-capacity perspective

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Indian state and tribal welfare: A story of low capacity

- ▶ Historic injustice and multiple levels of exclusivity
- ▶ Affirmative action and protective safeguards
- ▶ Integration via development or protective assimilation?
- ▶ FRA 2006

Forest Rights Act 2006

- ▶ Key features
- ▶ Contested beginnings and poor implementation
- ▶ Importance of subnational politics in redistributive welfare
- ▶ Subnational variation in implementation: patterns and anomalies

Research question

- ▶ Forest Rights Act 2006: what causes subnational variation in implementation?
- ▶ Possible explanations: State and society centric
- ▶ Comparing Jharkhand and Odisha:
 - ▶ Comparability
 - ▶ FRA performance
 - ▶ Informal norms pervading state institutions impact state capacity towards tribal welfare?

Thank you