

# *Gendered knowledge in the Carbon Calamity World: India*

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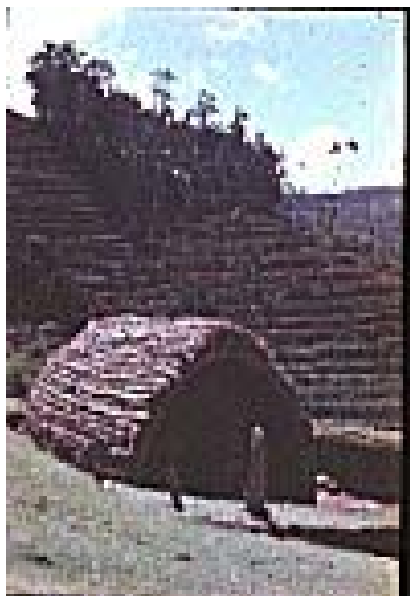


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In India, the paradigms  
vary :

Caste  
Class  
Ethnicity  
Religion  
Region  
Language  
Gender





UNESCO says 6,000  
Languages

In addition there are  
dialects that vary of  
different village or  
community clusters.

There are also in these  
sex segregated  
communities sex  
differentiated  
knowledge bodies and  
systems



That is there are slightly  
different words or  
terms used in slightly  
different contexts to  
refer to sex-  
appropriate knowledge

These lexicons and  
languages are a  
minute reflection of the  
world around



Reflecting local bio-specificities, indigenous cultures have developed language to reflect their images of the world and how to survive and thrive in it.



The rapid attrition of indigenous and other languages similarly reflects the shrinking and voluntary poverty of the natural resource base human civilization is reducing itself to in the pursuit of global commerce.

Never before have we as a species depended on such a narrow spectrum of natural resources:

foods,

construction

& clothing materials,

medicines:

consequently technologies as a whole



The narrower range of images in the world of each culture means the reduction in the variety of live cultures

The myriad languages will naturally and irreversibly die at least will wither and wilt, undernourished.



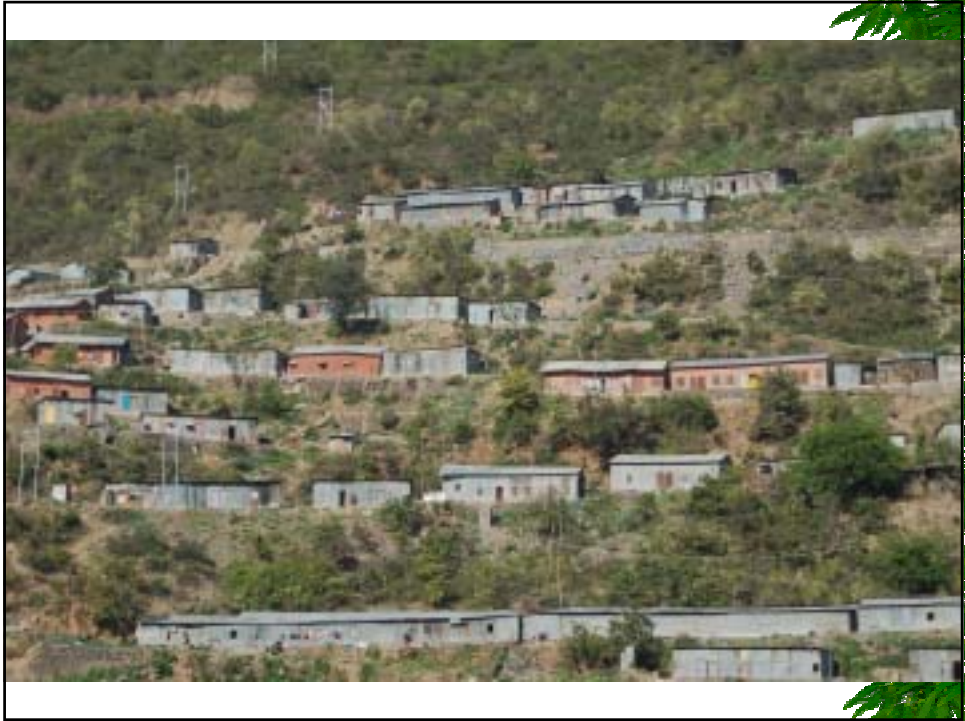






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This narrowing means that any calamity of one sort can wipe out a good swathe of our food or shelter or medicinal base.



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To disaggregate the gendered or sexed dimensions to site endogamies is intricate, perhaps even convoluted.

The upside of course is that the diversity affords opportunity for infinite experimentation,  
and **if it is diverse enough**, some of it might work well enough to save some of us.







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That means we have the development  
paradigm backward so far: we are  
reducing diversity for the market

We must urgently reverse this suicidal  
homogenizing process









There is a marked correlation between areas of biological diversity and areas of cultural diversity

Obviously,  
the first begets the second,  
literally



Since complex terrain and rich biodiversity facilitates breeding of IK, IK is very locale specific.

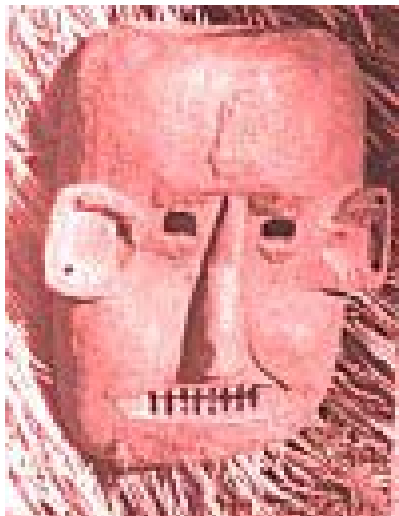
IK is thus closely intertwined with the topographical and bio-resources available in communities traditional habitats or territories.





They have, over perhaps millennia or even larger segments of time, become totally interdependent

That means if one dies or leaves the other dies too







Now Indigenous Knowledge is appropriated

Just like lands, waters and all the other natural resources have been appropriated before

And continue to be despite protest and struggle

Evicting, dispossessing, displacing the original inhabitants, the first peoples

25,000 people evicted to "safeguard" the environment





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Unless of course we radically reverse  
our entire world views, life styles,  
attitudes and practices in every  
sphere.

Learning to return to earth more than we  
take out, as all life has done, since the  
beginning except for some few of us.

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**THANK YOU  
KHURAMJARI**

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