Contested Realities - Adivasis in the Anthropocene

Friday 20 November 2015  10:00-16:00  Arts C 175
Global Studies Resource Centre Meeting Room
The workshop will be followed by Kandhamal 2008
film by Dir. Samarandra Das  16:00 - 17:00   Arts C133
And Book Launch Mission Saranda by Gladson DungDung
17:00 - 18:00 Arts C Dhaba with wine and refreshments
Sponsored by: Sussex Asia Centre, Resistance Network and Activists and Academia Forum - CWEH

The long twentieth century in India has been a period of tremendous change for its 80 million tribal inhabitants. At least 20-30 million have been dispossessed of their lands, forests and homes since India's Independence in the name of 'development' and 'security', through mega-projects and state or insurgent orchestrated violence. This workshop will examine the politics of indigeneity through rethinking the history, ethnicity and culture of indigenous groups in contemporary India.

The day long workshop - drawing on examples from Jharkhand, Nagaland and elsewhere in Central and Northeastern India - will highlight changing identities and current ecological crisis that are affecting these communities in the era of Anthropocene. The topics include: Large scale land alienation, collapse of social structure, the power of the mining lobby and issues of tribal autonomy in the North East Frontier, and also Adivasi politics of the left and the right; the dark side of indigeneity

Confirmed speakers: Felix Padel (JNU), Vinita Damodaran (Sussex), Gladson DungDung (Jharkhand Activist), Debyoth Das (SOAS), Geoffrey Whitefield (Chaplain Sussex), Peter Satyanand Samuels (Stanford), Brian Morris (Goldsmiths), photographer Robert Wallis (Independent researcher) and CWEH artist in-residence Zuky Serper (Sussex)