

Anthropology in Contemporary India

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Abstract: Anthropology in contemporary India has two fairly distinct personalities. As an 'academic discipline', the subject has evidently borrowed from the West and seems totally inclined toward the Western tradition of thoughts and research strategies. As a 'body of knowledge,' particularly in the Indian context, it has a set of unique, if not pristine qualities. What is rather unfortunate is the apparent indifference of the fellow professionals over here even to acknowledge these as facts.

For a healthy growth of Anthropology in India, it is extremely important as well as urgent that the academic discipline receives its sustenance from the body of knowledge, which emerged out of indigenous experiences and experiments. So, if Anthropology needs to redefine and / or remodel itself in terms of scopes as well as research strategies, it may unhesitatingly be done.

Key words : Anthropology, contemporary India, Western tradition