The Dynamics of Place and Space in the Mountain Village of Sillarygaon in Kalimpong District, West Bengal
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Abstract: The present paper is an outcome of a fieldwork conducted in a multiethnic mountain village of Sillarygaon, district Kalimpong, West Bengal, India. The strategic location of the village facing the picturesque Kanchenjunga range has opened up a new avenue of livelihood in form of tourism for the residents of the village. Most of the resident families (51.5%) have constructed ‘Homestay’ which is a new form of staying place for the tourists. This staying place for the tourists has lead to creation of an ‘Inscribed Space’, controlled by social and economic capital which has a considerable impact on the material life of the locally settled communities. However, the communities have continuously kept on trying to sustain their tradition, be it in terms of material, social or supernatural realms of everyday life and thereby reproducing the sense of proxemics which has its imprint written over the entire community landscape.

Key words: Homestay, Place, Space, Capital, Proxemics, Sillarygaon, West Bengal