INDIAN THINKERS
Dr. D N Majumdar

• Works:
  1. A tribe in transition: A study of Culture Pattern
  2. A fortune of Primitive Tribe
  3. Races and cultures of India
  4. Caste and Communication in an Indian Village
  5. Social contours of an Indian City
  6. Introduction to Social Anthropology
Major Contributions

- Ethnographies and fieldworks
- Study of culture change
- Development anthropology
- Physical anthro
- Defined Race
- Cross cultural patterns of child growth
- Ecological anthro- MARC
- Study of evolution of Anthro in India
• D. N. Majumdar was also involved in the decennial census of 1941 and he carried out an anthropometric and serological survey for the Untied Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh). The legendary statistician P. C. Mahalanobis collaborated with him in this endeavour. His involvement and devotion to the subject may be gauged from the fact that he was the most knowledgeable anthropologist about the tribes and castes.
• Along with Verrier Elwin he initiated ‘problem oriented ethnography’
• He founded the Ethnographic and Folk Culture Society, U.P. in 1945
• Brought a journal ‘The Eastern Anthropologist’
DISCUSSION ON THE APPLICATION OF STATISTICAL METHODS IN ANTHROPOMETRY

Dr. D. N. MAJUMDAR
Prof. P. C. MAHALANOBIS
Prof. K. P. CHATTOPADHYAY

STATISTICAL PUBLISHING SOCIETY
CALCUTTA
Agents: F. S. King & Sons Ltd., London.
Field work
Race

• ‘Race is a group of people who by their possession of a number of common physical traits can be distinguished from others, even if the numbers of these biological groups are widely scattered’.

• Though using racial factors in his analysis he was opposed to the concept of race and was not fond of single factor explanations in caste studies.
The relationship between these four elements guided the existence of any society.

**Man** here refers to human beings having certain biological needs and physical properties.

**Area** refers to the spaces which they occupy, the geographical referent which forms the basis of their existence.

**Resource** signifies the materials available in the spaces that they occupy.

**Cooperation** indicates the relationships between the human beings studied.

Harmony in all these four elements leads to a functional unity in society. This unity breaks down due to external pressures.
• Disappearance of PRIMITIVE TRIBES
• An advanced culture impinging on a simple and passive society caused such a decline
• What is the way out??????
  “creative or generative adaptation.”
Balancing social, physical and archeological anthropology.....

• In decennial census operations of 1941, carried out anthropological and serological surveys in the United Provinces
• Polyandrous societies like the Khasa of Jaunsar-Bawar in the Himalayas, the Korwas and the Tharus
• Urban and Caste elements
• Linked Physical anthro with caste.....
• blood groups, anthropometric surveys, health and disease were studied.
• Anthropometric and serological data was analysed statistically
• In Uttar Pradesh, he tried to find out the biometrical correlates of caste hierarchy.

.................but against

............Race, Racism
• promoted a problem-oriented research work
• tribes and castes of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh (studying the Gonds of Bastar), Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat (studying the Bhils) and West Bengal.
In spite of his specialization in Social Anthropology, he managed to keep up with trends in Physical Anthropology and Prehistory.
• he laid the foundation of ‘Ethnographic and Folk Culture Society’ (EFCS) in Lucknow.
• *Manav (in Hindi)* and the *Indian Journal of Physical Anthropology*.
• studies that were required for the future
• demarcated the social contours of an industrial city.
• incorporated an evaluation of administratively engineered social change
S C DUBE
• POL SC TO SOCIO TO SOCIAL ANTHRO
• Books
• Field work
• The kamar 1951
• Indian Village 1955
• Field songs of Chattisgarh 1948
• India’s changing Villages 1958
• Explanation and Management of Change 1971
• Modernization and development: The search for alternative paradigms (1988)
• Tradition and development (1990).
CONTRIBUTIONS

• Caste studies
• Village studies
• Political anthropology
  Dominant Caste
• Family planning program research
• CDP
• Growth of Indian Anthropology
• Holistic study of society
• Multi caste multi religious caste structure
• Study of customs and rituals
• Importance of rituals
• Communalism in Indian village
LEELA DUBE

• one of the early pioneers of feminist scholarship in India along with Irawati Karve, Vina Majumdar, and Lotika Sarkar
• Muslim Matriliny in Lakshadweep
• Matriliny and Islam: Religion and society in the Laccadives (1969)
• Comparison of three adivasi groups
• collaborated with S.C. Dube on research among rural communities in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra
• Women and kinship: comparative perspectives on gender in South and South-east Asia.
• Visibility and Power: Essays on Women in Society and Development
• On the Construction of Gender: Hindu Girls in Patrilineal India
• a member of the National Committee on the Status of Women between 1971 and 1974
• chairperson of the Commission on Women of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences
• Anthropological Explorations in Gender: Intersecting fields (2001)
American influence

- Tribe caste studies
- Village studies (Caste studies)
- Urban studies
- Political Anthro
- Psychological Anthro
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<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Authors/Institutions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tribe Caste studies</td>
<td>Robert Redfield</td>
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<td>Urban Studies</td>
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<td>Marriot</td>
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<td>Milton Singer</td>
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3. Village studies - Caste studies

- Oscar Lewis
- Morris Opler
- W A Rowe
- McKim Marriot
- John Hitchcock
- Kolenda
- Ralph Retztaff
- Harold Gould
- Henry Orenstein
- A R Beals
- E P Harper
4. Political Anthropology

Oscar Lewis
5. Psychological Anthropology

- Geetal Steed
- Ruth Benedict
- Carstairs
• Hitchcock, Kolenda, Retztaff- Khalapur, UP
• Harold Gould- Faridabad, Faizabad, Sherpur
• Beals- Namhalli, Mysore state
• Harper- Mysore
• Orenstein- Gujarat
• Geetal Steed- Gujarat
• Carstairs- Bihar
L P Vidyarthi

• Applied and action anthropologist
• Geography to Anthro
• Expanded the scope of Anthro-psychological, religion, social system, industrialisation etc
Literary works

• Sacred complex of Hindu Gaya
• The Maler: N M S Complex of a Hill tribe of Bihar
• Tribal Cultures in India
• Rise of Anthropology in India: A Social Science orientation
• Sacred Complex in Kasi
• Harijan Today
• Culture types in Tribal India
Edited works

• Aspects of Religion in Indian Society
• Applied Anthropology in India
• Anthropology and Tribal Welfare in India
• Sacred complex
• N M S Complex
• Tribal studies-
• History of Indian Anthropology
• Urban and Industrial Anthro
• Political Anthro
• Psychological Anthropology
• Studies of SCs
• Ambiguities, Incongruities, Inadequacies in Scheduled Tribes and Other Technical Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006
• What has Driven the Tribals of Central India to Political Extremism?
• In Quest for a Proactive Approach
• Militant Left Radicalism, State and Civil Society with Special Focus on Land Rights
• renowned Social Scientist and an anthropologist
• contributed immensely to the state of Sikkim through the Report of the Commission for Review of Environmental & Social Sector Policies, Plans and Programmes (CRESP) which was published in 2008
• Head of The Commission for Review of Social and Environmental sector policies, plan and programme (CRESP)
• reviewed the constitutional status of castes and communities of Sikkim in historical, cultural, ecological and politcal-economic contexts and made recommendations
• reviewed the policies, plans and other programmes in respect of SCs, STs, OBCs and other socially and economically backward communities for improvement of quality of life of all sections of people of Sikkim.
• former Chairman, Study Group on Land Holding System of Tribals, Planning Commission, Government of India (1985-86),
• former Chairman, Committee on Forest and Tribals Backward Classes Unit, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India (1980-82).
• Considered an authority on the northeast,
• opposed the imposition of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act in Manipur and Operation Green Hunt