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## **Editorial**

The journal, *Annals of Anthropological Research & Reviews* (AARR), published by the Department of Anthropology & Tribal Studies of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University, begins its journey in a crucial time, when on the one hand, the discipline is fragmented and compartmentalised by multiple sub-specialties, each trying to distance itself from the other. On the other hand, the emergence of COVID-19 pandemic will change the mode of teaching anthropology forever. The entire fraternity seems to be freaked and bewildered by the uncertainty of the discipline's future; how the tradition of grooming students and how the culture of fieldwork will shape up are some of the pertinent questions that haunt every anthropologist.

Unfortunately, Anthropology in India thrives in a dismal state. A sheer lack of interest of the national and state-level education policy-makers has limited the possibility of the subject being widely taught at the school level. Even the top-notch Anthropological research institutes, associations and forums are clueless (and visionless) as to how the scholars can be trained and motivated. The only prospect of this subject is with aspirants of civil services, who opt for anthropology just to qualify the competitive exams. Indeed, the founders of the discipline in the country did not wish for such a sordid fate! Woefully, not enough scopes are niched out to inspire the young, skilled cohorts after their classroom teachings of anthropology are over.

This journal ensures a continuum of nurturing of young scholars and students beyond pedagogical teaching to enable them think, write and publish their works. To be more specific, the journal will be a platform for young scholars to share ideas and thoughts with experts and in turn, be inspired by their scholarly writings. Such a platform is long awaited at a time when open-minded academic spaces are rapidly shrinking. AARR is a blind, peer-review journal that invites any academic and scientifically written piece, be it reviews, opinions, original research, or even working papers on any sub-fields of Anthropology. Thus, the title 'research and review' justifies the purpose of giving audience a panoramic view of new trends, evolving thoughts and opinions, and emerging research methods in Anthropology. Almost four decades after late Amitabha Basu lamented saying, "Is Anthropology Dead or Dying", in one of the issues of the Journal of Indian Anthropological Society in 1980 (co-authored by S.K. Basu), we are hopeful that a thumping sound of the discipline springing back to life will reverberate soon!!

The first issue includes a total of ten articles covering diverse topics. The articles are contributed by veteran anthropologists, researchers, teachers, scholars and students. We are particularly indebted to Prof Rajat Kanti Das (President, Indian Anthropological Society), Dr Nachiketa Bandopadhyay (Registrar, SKBU), and Prof S.B Roy (Chairman, Indian Institute of Biosocial Research and Development) to set the journey. We are equally grateful to all other contributing authors for realising our vision.

**Jaydeep Sengupta**  
**Mithun Das**