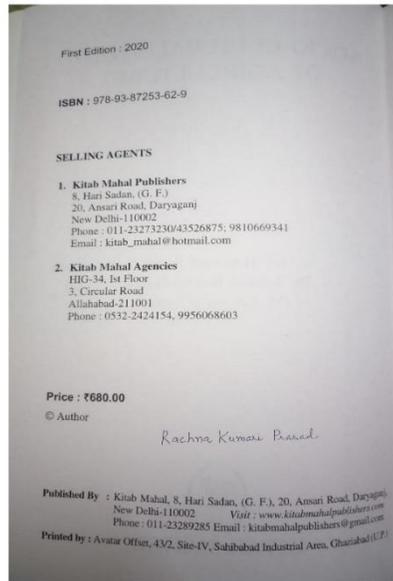
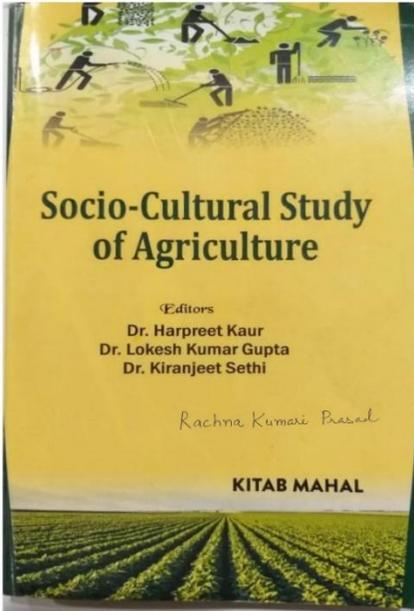


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(iv)

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*Rachna Kumari Prasad*

**LAND ALIENATION AND LAW IN  
JHARKHAND**

*Rachna Kumari Prasad*

Land alienation of the tribal people has been one of the most important areas of concern. Land alienation can be understood both in a narrow and a broad sense. While in the narrow sense, it is the loss of individual landholdings and means of livelihood, in its broader sense, alienation includes the loss of right to Common Property Resources and rural commons. Agricultural land is an important source of livelihood for the tribals. Alienation of agricultural land has not only disrupted their living conditions but has also been a threat to their cultural identity.

The agrarian economy based on feudal and semi-feudal relations centered on caste and class continues to dominate the ownership and control over the productive resource. It is in this context that the role of law and policy implementation becomes important. Land reforms were an important positive intervention by the state for rural development in the region. The major objectives of land reforms have been the re-ordering of agrarian relations in order to achieve an egalitarian social structure, elimination of exploitation in land relations realizing the age old goal of 'land to the tiller', enlarging the land base of rural poor, leading to empowerment of local institutions

**Keywords:** Alienation, Dikus, Deprivation and Marginalization

**Historical Process of Land Alienation**

The process of land alienation can be traced to the establishment of the Hindu Raja and non-tribal landlords who collected rent and paid revenue to their Mughal rulers during the 16<sup>th</sup> century. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, however, the *maharaja*, who then had a feudatory relationship with the Mughal emperor, fell under Hindu influence. This led to the loss of tribal lands before the coming of the Britishers. He formed an alliance with Rajput families and of the Britishers. He invited other Rajputs and Brahmans, mainly from Orissa (now Odisha) to settle in the region. In return of their service Brahmans

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