

GLOSSARY

Adim Jati	It connotes primitive castes.
Adivasi	Refers to original settlers.
Anusuchit Jan Jati	Scheduled Tribes.
Baram	A tutelary deity of the village.
Baromasi gan	Songs of the Twelve-month cycle.
Basumata	Mother-earth.
Bhairabi	The name of Chandi.
Chaitra Sankranti	The last day of the month of Chaitra (March-April).
Changal	A kind of circular cross-drum covered on one side by means of hide.
Changu	A musical instrument of tribals.
Chirka alu	A kind of yam available in the local jungle.
Cotta veer	The inferior hero.
Dandapat	An official in charge for peace and order.
Dakuas	Village messengers.
Deheri	Village Priest.
Dharmadevata	God of Righteousness.
Durba	A kind of grass (Cynodon dactylon).
Ekusia	The twenty-first day from the date of child-birth.
Gomua	A spirit.

Gram Panchayat	The third tier of elected local self-government in West Bengal consisting of several mouza villages.
Gunins	Medicine man.
Hat	The weekly local market in Indian villages.
Jan Jati	Folk communities.
Joy Chandi	Chandi of victory.
Jungle Mahal	Literally ‘jungle estates’, was a district formed by British Colonialists in India and some independent chiefdoms lying between Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore and the hilly country of Chota Nagpur in what is now the India state of West Bengal.
Kendu leaf	It is leaf of Kendu tree (<i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i>) used for making local cigarettes in India.
Kotal	An assistant to the king.
Kundra	A mischievous spirit.
Layek	Country soldier.
Lodh tree	A kind of tree commonly found in Northern India.
Makar	A kind of shark.
Mouza	A revenue unit bearing a local name which may or may not overlap with the village defined by the people.
Mukhia	Headman.
Nayak	Leader.
Ojhas	Medicine men.
Paramanik	A village cook for the ceremonies.

Patta	Land given to landless families by the Government with the help of the Land and Land a Reforms Act 1955. Patta land can be inherited but cannot be sold.
Pradhan	The head of the statutory gram panchayat (lowest level of the three tier Local Self Government).
Pretasani	A spirit.
Sal	A kind of tree (<i>Shorea robusta</i>).
Sal fish	A kind of fish (<i>Ophicephalus morulius</i>).
Sanga	Widow re-marriage.
Tantis	Weaver caste.
Than	The residing place of a diety.
Tribus	A Latin word designating a particular kind of social and political organisations existed in traditional societies.
Tulsi	A kind of holy plant (<i>Ocimum bacilium</i>).
Tusu	A doll worship held in the month of Pous (December-January).
Tussore	A kind of thread which develops in the body of an insect (<i>Bombyx mori</i>) and used for making clothes.
Yugini	A dreadful spirit.