

## Linguistic Impact of Language Contact in the Kisan Tribe

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### ABSTRACT

*This research paper investigates language contact and resultant linguistic changes in the Kisan language, a distinct variety derived from Kurux in Odisha, India. This research focuses on the language contact and subsequent linguistic changes observed in the Kisan language, a speech variety derived from Kurux, a North Dravidian language spoken in the western parts of Odisha, India. The linguistic changes are studied at the lexical, phonological, and morpho-syntactic levels, providing a synchronic description of the structural properties of Kisan in Odisha. The significance of the study lies in addressing the lack of recent extensive research on Kisan and its linguistic differences from Kurux/Oraon. It also contributes to the understanding of the sociolinguistic status of tribal languages in Chotanagpur, where urbanization and industrialization have exposed these languages to diverse non-regional influences. The methodology involves a quantitative approach for the synchronic description of language contact-induced changes, borrowing, bilingualism, and language shift. Data collection includes sociolinguistic interviews, questionnaires, and participant observation through social networks in the Sundargarh and Sambalpur districts of Odisha. The research aims to not only contribute to linguistic studies but also to raise awareness of the linguistic and social difficulties faced by the Kisan speakers. The findings can be valuable for language planners, policy-makers, administrators, and educators in designing appropriate modules and policies to preserve and promote the Kisan language.*