

'Fighting for their Lives: Human Rights and Adivasis' in *NHRC: Journal of the National Human Rights Commission, India*. 15: 113-138. 2016. Refereed.

**Abstract:** The human rights of adivasis have deservedly been the focus of extensive scholarly and activist attention, from documentation of deprivation and discrimination, to debates about policies for empowerment and improvement of their conditions. This essay situates adivasi welfare within the wider context of India's politics of development. It argues that adivasi rights are intrinsically linked to larger questions about the state and its institutional practices, and to policies of economic liberalisation and environmental extraction. Despite recent progressive legislation, adivasis continue to be excluded from political, economic and cultural power. The essay examines their strategies to resist and reform the unjust circumstances imposed upon them.