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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION TEMPLATE (Please DOWNLOAD this file)
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Abstract with Title (1000-1200 words)	A case Study on "Water, Sanitation and Hygienic" (WASH) Practices among Tribals in Koraput District of Odisha Drinking water and sanitation are the basic needs of life. The safe drinking water and proper sanitation play a crucial role to achieve the goal of 'health for all', However drinking contaminated water and living in unhygienic conditions can cause sickness and may lead to death. The health status of an individual, a community or a nation is determined by the interplay and integration of two ecological universes- the internal environment of man himself and the external environment which surrounds him. Good sanitation depends mainly on practices and attitude of

people, as it is a way of life. The word “Sanitation” includes all aspects of environmental and household cleanliness as well as personal hygiene. The fundamental right of every human being on this planet is to live healthy. The basic requirements for survival of mankind are food, clothing and shelter. Food includes water as 70% of our body is having water and without water an adult can survive only for 48-72 hours and an infant only 24 hours. The shelter or habitat where the human being lives needs to be cleaned. Sanitation is a part of the effort to keep the habitat clean. Providing universal access to sanitation has been a priority in all levels of India, The Govt. has given a renewed thrust to fast forward the ongoing sanitation mission and launched a special drive, named ‘Swachh Bharat Mission’ on 2 October, 2014 to achieve the goal of an open defecation free India by the year 2019.

Odisha is amongst the states of India with the lowest household toilet access, along with Jharkhand. As per 2011 Census, 85.9% of the rural household have no toilet facilities in Odisha. Koraput District is dominated by Tribal Population, having 56% of them out of the total population. This study tries to understand the Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) of safe drinking Water, Sanitation and hygiene among the tribal community that determine the health indicator and quality of life.

This case study investigates the prevalent Water, Sanitation, and Hygienic (WASH) practices among the tribal communities residing in the Koraput district of Odisha, India. The study aims to comprehend the existing WASH infrastructure, behavioral patterns, and cultural influences impacting these vital practices within tribal societies. Through a mixed-method approach, including surveys, interviews, and observational studies, this research assesses the accessibility, availability, and quality of

	water sources in tribal areas. It also examines sanitation facilities, hygiene behaviors, and the socio-cultural dynamics shaping WASH practices among the indigenous communities. The findings reveal significant disparities in access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities within these tribal regions. Moreover, cultural norms and beliefs strongly influence hygiene behaviors, often impacting the adoption of improved WASH practices. The study identifies specific challenges and barriers hindering the adoption of better practices and suggests context-specific interventions and policy recommendations to address these issues. Understanding the intricacies of WASH practices among tribal populations is crucial for devising sustainable interventions and policies that respect local cultural values while improving overall health outcomes and quality of life in Koraput district. This case study contributes valuable insights toward developing targeted strategies for enhancing WASH practices and promoting better health and well-being within tribal communities.
Keywords (3 – 5)	Water accessibility, Hygiene behaviors, Indigenous populations, Health disparities, Sustainable interventions