

# PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY



It is observed that among the younger members of the Lanjia Saora Tribe community, tradition is being reinterpreted and negotiating modernity on its own terms.

## **Lanjia Saora Tribe**

Saora is one of the ancient tribes of Odisha and categorized as a particularly vulnerable tribal group.

**Other names:** Savaras, Sabaras, Saura, Sora, etc.

A small number of people are also found in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Assam.

**Language:** They have their own native language called Sora, which is a Munda language, and they are one of the very few tribes of India that have a script for the language, Sorang Sompeng.

They show their racial affinity to the Proto Australoid physical characters.

**Settlement:** They are living in mud-and-thatch homes scattered across undulating terrain,

**Economy:** The community sustains itself through shifting cultivation, foraging, and small-scale farming.

**Religion:** Saoras follow an ingrained and intricate religion, having faith in and worshipping a number of gods and spirits, who they believe are the supreme controllers of their regular lives.

They have unique art practices, religious customs, as well as a dying tattooing tradition called 'Tantangbo'.

Their belief system is closely tied to nature, with rituals, music, and dance forming an integral part of everyday life.

Among the most distinctive visual traditions are their large metal earrings — thick, circular ornaments that are not merely worn but fixed into stretched earlobes, often over years.

Village guardian deities like Kitungsum are installed at the entrance of the settlement.

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