

# Summary on Climate's First Orphans

[120BM0014]

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Climate change is a glaring reality which slowly has become more prominent with world's rising global warming. It is no more a thing of future but a reality in which we all are living and it is affecting our day to day life.

India, with its sensitive ecosystem, is one of the country to be most affected by climate change. One of the state most affected in India is Odisha, a state with a 500 km coastline which provided it an advantage in earlier times to do trade and increase prosperity has become a concern for its ~~perd~~ people. Due to its angular positioning to the Bay of Bengal, it became one of the most prone region for being hit by natural disasters.

In 1999 a "supercyclone" struck the coast of Odisha, ravaging through the state killing hundreds and causing destruction. The 25 hrs long nightmare shook the soul of the State. Loss of lives and money were the only thing left behind. But this was not sudden but a tipping point for continuous natural, contradictory disasters like flood and drought hitting the state. The signs of this disaster were visible and still is in 2005.

We would talk about village known as "Satavaya" or "ସତାବୟା" in the "Kendrapada" district. It is one of the most affected, left with only 2 clans of the original 7 clans. The sea has intruded 1.5 km. The sea level is dangerously closed on to the village, almost on the edge of perishing it.



Due to the proximity of sea and frequency of disaster, acres of agricultural land has perished leaving the villagers with poverty & suffering, some of whom have been forced to migrate out in order to keep the house running. The horror of destruction can be known as only 1 of the 6 tubewells is still on the shore with rest being submerged. Rice mills, houses, agri-land all being a thing of past submerged by the sea. The local people remember their old days of village and how the geography has changed drastically.

Both the people and scientific reports suggest horrifying effects of rise in temperature of sea and sea level rising. Even a 1mm rise in sea can submerge acres of land. A glaring man-made natural disaster which has <sup>affected</sup> lives of people living in the coast, ~~and~~ with uncertainty prevailing. Natural soil binders like the mangroves having to be protected in order to maintain the alarming rate of changing ecosystem. Humans have all around the world ravaged the natural ecosystem and this is a way nature is giving back.

A citizen of village narrates how he went to this near town and due to hot wave they had to soak in the river to get themselves some relief. The heat had almost killed them. When you hear such stories, the essence of earth's rising temperature becomes visible. Due to thermal expansion, the sea level behaves randomly, the waves destroy schools, livelihood and the lives gets destroyed with people sitting on the edge of uncertainty.

The future has more destruction in place unless we stop disregarding nature & its ecosystem. The monster of global warming as ~~it~~ crept into our lives and this is reality. The faster we realize the the earlier we can save lives and property otherwise, destruction is inevitable.