

Title: A Digital Archive of Great Nicobar Island

Principal Investigator (PI)

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Overview of the project:

The project aims to consider serious concerns about the impact that will be caused along the ecological, cultural, and geological dimensions in a time of serious concerns of global warming, rising sea levels, the rights of the indigenous communities and

importance of forest protection. The project envisages the cutting of a million trees in this tropical forest and seeks to compensate the destruction with tree plantation over 260 sq. km in faraway Haryana - an idea that ecologists say is outrageous and preposterous.

Research Methodology:

- This archival research aims to digitalize and safeguard the rich cultural heritage of Great Nicobar Island.
- There will be two parallel but simultaneous axis along which the repository will be created
 - i) Temporal study, where we will work backwards by uploading the latest documents first
 - ii) Thematic study, where the material will be categorised in broad themes such as ecology, geology, indigenous peoples, settler communities and history and politics. This is a very tentative initial list, and, in any case, these will be cross-linked as each of the documents will be placed in multiple categories.

Deliverables:

- Develop a massive collection of information and documents of valuable resource in the context of the current project, of course,
- Create a digital archive of Great Nicobar Island. The repository will have
 - i) all information, past and present, about Great Nicobar Island
 - ii) an interesting and useful online interface to access all this information
- Other research output will be reports, academic papers, visualisations, and awareness material including in the print format.

