

BEYOND THE LINE

— *Short Stories* —



SOURAV SARKAR

Chanch Pottery is small industrial town on the bank of river Barakar. You will not find schools there. But plenty country wine shops are there around. During wages day it is common to see people are lying on the road being over drunk. Most of salary goes to wine shop & pocket of moneylender. Poverty, illiteracy, exploitation are common features of lives of natives of this area. River Barakar gets dried in summer, overflowed during monsoon. But it does not change state of people staying by the side of river. People are born here to die in poverty. Badri Prasad, a colliery worker & trade union leader, decided to unsettle the settled fact. He challenged local mafia Ratnakar and advised other workers not to borrow money from him with high interest. Confrontation started. With the support of Leftist radical outfit Naxalites these tribals started fighting against oppression of landowners, money lenders anticipating that through these extremist Naxalites they will be able to find out their goal. But it is easy to break rather than to make. Killing people, damaging Government property nobody is going to gain anything. Tribals have realized today education is biggest strength of the society. With the back drop of tribal life "*BEYOND THE LINE*" is the story of struggle full life of tribals and keen desire to progress. Other stories will highlight various shades of human relations and mind set with blend of different tastes.

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