

## **Bastar**

**Stephen Gill\***

*BASTAR is the fifth short fiction in the Chhattisgarh Series by Stephen Gill. The story unmasks the ghotul of the Gonds, the weird ideology and life of Rajneesh and facts hidden in the region of Bastar, known as Dandakaryana and Dakshin Kosala in the hoary past. The fiction is also about Ravana, his sister Surpnakha and the last ruler of Bastar.*

Reghu went to Bastar with Vice Chancellor Dwindra from Raipur. It was a pleasant six-hour drive, stopping at a variety of places, starting with the new capital of Chhattisgarh and then to its latest university area, where Vice Chancellor Dwindra had bought a piece of land to settle after his retirement. After a couple of hours on the way to Bastar they snacked with teachers at a college and an hour later at the house of one of Vice Chancellor Dwindra's friends who was a retired professor.

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