The present study entitled "A Study of Electoral Politics and Voting Behaviour: A study of Change in Pre and Post-poll Situation in Khariar Assembly Constituency" is a combination of traditional and empirical study. In the democratic world, elections fascinate educated, un-educated, rich, poor, men, women, young and old alike and the electorate belong to various professions. Every new election brings some socio-political or economic change in the society. It is a subject of popular interest.

The study of voting behaviour is associated with a number of socio-economic, political, religious and psychological factors. These may be transient or even permanent, regional, national or even international.

As a matter of fact, behavioural study of assembly elections may be made on the basis of data collected from different respondents. Since the subject of the study is broad, efforts have been made to understand the electoral process and electoral decision making and their attendant variants in the backward belt like Khariar of Kalahandi district of Orissa with a pre-post comparative research design as to facilitate our understanding of dynamics of politics and political behaviour in a backward society.

The entire thesis has six chapters. In the first
chapter attempts has been made to explain the concept of voting behaviour, its various determinants. The review of literature related to the voting behaviour have been described in the Second chapter.

In the third chapter an attempt have been made to explain the decision to carry out the voting behaviour study in Khariar assembly constituency. In the same chapter the purpose of the study is also discussed.

The fourth chapter chronicles democratic preferences in Kalahandi district from First General Election to 1985 Assembly Election with special reference to Khariar Assembly Constituency.

In the Fifth chapter an attempt has been made to know about the political informations, political consciousness, the socio-economic co-relates of the respondents. Further an attempt has been made to examine the co-relation between levels of education with intra-personal source of communication and other sources. Again the concept of change and the voting behaviour of the respondents have been analysed from both pre and post poll survey.

The sixth and last chapter describes about the over all findings and conclusion of the study.

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