The Sentinelese
The North Sentinel Island

• Located at south-west coast of South Andaman
• 60 km away from Port Blair
• 36 km from Wandoor
• Area- about 60 sq.km
Impact of Tsunami

• The tectonic plate under the island lifted by 1-2 meters.
• Coral reef under the water were exposed and became permanently dry land.
• Shallow lagoons vanished
British Administrators Who Visited the North Sentinel Island

• Homfray (1867)
• Portman (1880-1896)
• Captain Hobday (1886)
• Gilbert Rogers (1903)
• Bonington (1926)
Contact Mission

- Expedition in 2004-2005 and 2014
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>117</td>
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<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>117</td>
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<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>82</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>39</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>15</td>
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Population

- The estimated population is 100 to 150
- 2014 visit - 16 people (male-7, female-6, Children- 3.
- 1 to 12.5 sq. km land area per individual
- North Sentinel Island - about 60 sq,km
- PAT Regulation, 1956
- Exclusion Zone of 3 km round the Island
Perception of Self and Others

- The Great Andamanese, the Onge and the Jarawas.
- Goodwill Mission People
- The Poachers and the Fishermen
- The Great Andamanese - “Jurrahwallahs”
- Onge - “Chankvitay”/ “Chio-ta-kwo-kwe”
- Pathan-Jarawa

- The Great Andamanese Group and
- The Onge-Sentinelese-Jarawa Group
Material Culture

**House and House Types**

- Huts
- Communal Huts
- Temporary Encampments- Buttressed roots of trees
Baskets, Bow and Arrows, Spear, Canoe, etc.
Source of Iron

Wrecks

- 1867 - The Brig Nineveh
- 1970 - Craft - SMF 532
- 1977 - MV Rusley
- 1981 - MV Prime Rose
Food

- Coconut and plantains?
- Wild boar.
- Roots and tubers and leaves.
- Honey, turtle, turtle eggs and different varieties of fish.
Society and Culture

• Marriage, Kinship, and Family
• Territorial Divisions
Impact of Policies

The Sentinelese are devoid of many critical problems faced by contemporary foragers living elsewhere like:

- Conflict with their neighbours,
- Shrinking land base,
- Insistence to subordinate themselves to state politics,
- Pressure to assimilate with the neighbouring dominant cultures, etc. thanks to the positioning of the community in an isolated island.
Vulnerability

The Poachers & The Fishermen
Natural Calamities- Tsunami, Forest Fire, etc.
Towards a Policy for Future?

• “Hunting the Jarawa”-Punitive Expeditions (1858-1942)
• Goodwill Mission (1967-1994)
• Policy of “Hands off”
• “Eyes On”
• What Should be the Policy to be adopted in Future???