



# HONEY BEES OF THE NILGIRIS

*Culture, Ecology and Markets*

Honey bees of the *Apis* family and stingless bees are the main sources of natural honey. Bees make honey for specific reasons and in so doing they also help to pollinate forest and agriculture crops. The *adivasi* or indigenous peoples have an innate knowledge about bees and their ecology. A knowledge which helps them take honey, trade with it, sustain the bees and the forests. Their understanding of the ecosystem also tells the the story honey bee diversity and local and culturally rooted ways nurturing bees.

**This exhibition, curated by  
Keystone Foundation,  
journeys through 30 years of  
working on bees and honey  
with the indigenous  
communities of the Nilgiris.**

