

Meda Tribe - A Sociological Study

(With Special Reference to Chitradurga District)

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Abstract

One of the vital development in recent decades is growing awareness about tribes. Tribe in the dictionary of sociology is define as an isolated group speaking their own dialect, follow their own culture living in hilly stations are called tribes. K S Singh has been identified there are 472 tribes in India in which 152 tribes are segmental. Tribal population consists 67.8million in India and they are constitute 8.09 percent of India's population being the most oppressed and exploited class of our society. Present study focus on meda tribe of Karnataka. Naturally meda recognized as medara or gourigas. Preferably live in urban area where their labour in demand. Their rank in the social scale is obtained the same as that of Bedas and they are not regarded as an impure caste. The aim of the study is to measure the socio economic condition and Educational Status in global scenario, with all this objects the study concentrate on the safeguards and plans of government of India have undertaken for the upliftment of this particular tribe.

Keywords: Tribe, Isolated, Segmental, Dialect, Impure.

1. Introduction

India is a diversified country with different culture. People of this country have their own identity speaking their dialect, practicing their tradition, rituals maintaining values. Eventually social system of this country based on caste system. However, there is another segment of the society living with their own specifications called tribe. Generally, a tribe is a group of people, usually living in rarest areas, in a small territory. In addition to that the common definition of tribe of tribe is "having their own culture, speaking their own dialect, living in hilly stations or forest, and their occupation generally relates to forest. After independence concerned authorities strive to up bring tribal communities but it is not achieved thoroughly. Keeping all these aspects in mind to draw attention. To the concerned authority The present research paper concentrate on Meda tribe of Karnataka. Present research paper is intended to find out the problems and challenges of Meda tribe in global scenario.

Meda tribe: Setting the Indian context.

Meda tribe are the tribe, particularly engaging traditional craft of bamboo artifacts. A significant aspect of Medha culture is their traditional skill in weaving bamboo to create items like baskets, mats, and fans. This is a core element of their socio-economic identity. The Medha community is primarily found in the districts of Karnataka, including Dharawad, Mysore, chitradurga, Kolar, Chikkamagaluru, Ballqry, Shivamogga, Davanagere. There are some Sociological studies of the Medha tribe focused on

their artisanal skills, Research in areas like Haveri and other districts helps to map their unique cultural practices, social organizations, and the historical evolution of their way of life.

Justification of the study

Tribes are playing effective role in the development process in India. They also serving different sectors of the society and contributing for the development of the nation. Development occur through collective effort and conscious without collective effort no progress no growth, no identity. Therefore, tribes has had their own identity. Nevertheless, in recent decade the development means inclusiveness of all. However, there are several studies have done on tribal community, yet there is huge research gap and many more researches has to be needed for further understanding of the tribal community. Hence the present research paper intended to find out the problems and challenges of Meds tribe with a sociological point of view.

Methodology

The present research is focused on problems and challenges of Meds tribe with a sociological point of view. Particularly concentrating on socio, cultural, political and economic aspects. Hence, the methodology of any research is a significant element. It brings out the methodological aspects of research which adopted for the research. It includes the Study area, Research Design, study Universe, sampling method which used for the study, Tools and techniques of Data Collection, the method of statistical technique.

Objectives of the study

The present research paper has the following objectives

- To understand the socio- economic condition of Meda tribe.
- To analyse the educational, political awareness of meda tribe in present situation.
- To know the problems and challenges of meds tribe
- Understand the welfare measures of tribal community

Study Area

Karnataka is one of the largest state in India, famous for its affluent culture and diversity etc. The state is neither rich nor poor in its nature, the state is famous for its vast culture and homogeneity. The present research paper has taken Chitradurga district for the study purpose, Chitradurga is one among district of Karnataka.

Sampling method

Sampling is the most important aspect in any research. The present research have taken 50 respondents, and the sampling method based on “simple stratified Sampling method” of Chitradurga district.

Results and discussion

Based on the primary data collected by respondents the findings
Are as follows

- Meda tribes are socially and economically weaker in nature. The traditional occupation is declining gradually. 80% of the respondents of the present study stated that their economic status getting worsen, because of modern artifacts. They are benefitted only from silk cocoon or silk nest which is made by bamboo.
- Population of Meds tribe is too minimal. Spread across the district of Karnataka including Shivamogga, Bellary, Chkkamagaluru, Chitradurga, Mysore, Haveri, etc. Comparatively other tribes of Karnataka meda are not populous tribe.
- Till today Meda tribe depends on their traditional occupation. Making Bamboo artifacts and such as basket, silk nest , ladders, Baskets, and many more. These traditional activities might solve their hunger but not take them to rich position.
- Regarding political participation, Meda tribe is not getting ant political recognition and do not creating any political imprint.
- Regarding welfare measures Karnataka have tribal welfare department. However, Meda community couldn't able to utilize the benefits properly

Conclusion

Tribes of India are facing several problems in these days. The main cause for this is problem is the lack of awareness regarding many facilitate and welfare measures. Many tribal people are living in poor condition with lack of adequate facilities. Meda tribe is one among them. There is problem in Education, political sectors. The concerned authority and stake holders must concentrate on these people to bring them into main stream.

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