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RESEARCH ARTICLE

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF KADAR TRIBES IN ANAIMALAI HILLS, COIMBATORE DISTRICT,
TAMIL NADU-A STUDY**

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Abstract

The Western Ghats is a mountain range that stretches 1,600 km along the western coast of the Indian peninsula. It is recognized as a global biodiversity spot, also contains cultural diversity including few tribal communities. There are six tribal communities namely Kadar, Muthuvar, Malasar, Malai Malasar, Pulaiyar and Eravallar in Anaimalai Tiger Reserve Sanctuary earlier known as Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Valparai Plateau, Coimbatore district, Tamilnadu. This article is to analyse the social development status of tribes at Anaimalai hills their nature of life, living styles, earning etc., this study is a descriptive research design. Both primary and also secondary data were used for analysis. Simple random sampling method is used in data collection. Sample size is 185 respondents belong to the six Kadar tribal settlement area located in Anaimalai Hills. The tribals of Anaimalai hills are economically poor and their earning is inadequate to lead their life but the household facilities are very poor. They have only solar power and the electricity is not available. The government providing few supporting measures. This is not enough for them for their wellbeing so, the government have to assist them financially and also to provide them job opportunity.

Keywords: Socio-economic status, Kadar tribes, Conservation, Anaimalai

Introduction

India's prosperity is tied to the well-being of its tribal communities, whose welfare remains a top priority. Scheduled Tribes have unique cultures,

religious beliefs, and customs that distinguish them from other groups. Globally, 200 million (20 Crores) tribal people, making up 14% of the world's population, live in various tribal groups. In

India, Tamil Nadu is home to 36 sub-tribal groups, six of which is Kadar, Malasar, Malai Malasar, Muthuvar, Pulaiyar, and Eravallar are classified as Primitive Tribal Groups, primarily residing in the Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district. The Anaimalai region, inhabited by over 5,200 people from distinct tribal indigenous communities, could be designated as an elephant reserve, tiger reserve, water reserve, floral reserve, and anthropological reserve. These tribes practice primitive cultivation, growing limited food crops. The Anaimalai was declared a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1976 and renamed the Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary in 1987 and it is now known as the Anaimalai Tiger Reserve.

Review of Literature

1. V.Vijayalakshmi & M.Milcah Paul(2019) "Socio- Economic conditions of Tribal communities in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh – A Review". They analyzed that the tribal's were facing many issues such as health issues, shelter problems, financial issues, cultural isolation, lack of education etc. The government helps tribes by introducing many welfare schemes for their developments.
2. Dr. K. Manivannan (2015), Special Aspects Of Socio-Cultural Life Of The Kadar- The Primitive Tribe In Coimbatore District, International Journal Of Current Research, Vol. 7, Issue, 12, Pp.23876-23880, December, 2015. The Kadars are living in remote forest areas without adequate necessary facilities. Training should be given to them in the modern method of cultivation and all the people in plain areas should behave in a friendly manner with them and help them to enjoy the benefits of our freedom.
3. Akshay Vijay Sawant and MK Shivaa, Socio-economic status and role of Kadar tribes in conservation, in Anamalais, International Journal of Chemical Studies 2019; 7(3): 3847-3851. The current study aims at assessing the socio-economic status among people of Kadar community and their role in Forest.
4. M. Kanimozhi, and S.Lenin, Environment, Life Style And Their Problems Among Kadar Tribals In Anaimalai – A Case Study, Journal of

Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research (JETIR), 2018 JETIR October 2018, Volume 5, Issue 10. Educational awareness programmes to improve the tribal literacy rate need to be provided. They have to struggle hard for their existence. The tribals have to face the problems related to Education, Economy, Transport, and house.

5. Gouthami V and Amitha Bachan K.H, distribution and Demography of Kadar Ethnic Community Endemic to the Western Ghats, International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews, VOL 6 I ISSUE 2, APRIL- JUNE 2019. This study finds Kadar are distributed in a total of 21 settlements within Kerala (15) and Tamil Nadu (6). Among the 15 settlements within Kerala, nine are confined to Thrissur, and six colonies are within Palakkad districts. The total population of Kadar is 2266 within 686 families in the 21 settlements.

Objective of the study

- To explain the concept, evolution and status of primitive tribes.
- To understand and identify the social development conditions of the selected primitive tribes in Anaimalai region in Coimbatore district.
- To examine and find out the social development factors responsible for primitiveness in selected study areas.

Research Methodology

This study is a descriptive research design. Both primary and also secondary data were used for analysis. Simple random sampling method is used in data collection. Sample size is 100 respondents belong to the tribal settlement located in Anaimalai Hills, Valparai Taluk, Coimbatore District, and Tamilnadu. The statistical tools used for analysis to derive interpretations

1. Simple percentage analysis
2. Chi-square test

Analysis

Simple Percentage analysis

Factor	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Frequency
Age			
Below 30 Years	27	27.0	27.0
30 Years – 40 Years	43	43.0	70.0
Above 40 Years	30	30.0	100.0
Gender			
Male	46	46.0	46
Female	54	54.0	100.0
Number of family member			
Less than 3 member	21	21.0	32.0
3 – 5 member	44	44.0	65.0
Above 5 member	35	35.0	100.0
Nature of family			
Nuclear family	62	62.0	62.0
Joint family	38	38.0	100.0
Marital Status			
Married	73	73.0	73.0
Unmarried	27	27.0	100.0
Education			
Literate	42	42.0	42.0
Illiterate	58	58.0	100.0
Nature of Employment			
Self-cultivation	48	48.0	48
Government job	25	25.0	73.0
Private job	27	27.0	100.0
Monthly income			
Less than Rs. 5000	20	20.0	20.0
Rs.5000 to Rs.10000	62	62.0	82.0
Above Rs.10000	18	18.0	100.0
Type of house			

Huts	21	21.0	21.0
Sheeted house	61	61.0	82.0
Other house	18	18.0	100.0
Electricity			
Solar Electricity	78	78.0	78.0
Hydro Electricity	15	15.0	93.0
Other	7	7.0	100.0

From the above table 1.1, the majority of respondents (43%) belongs to age group of 30 years – 40 years. The majority of the respondents (54%) are female category. The maximum of the respondents (44%) have 3-5 members. Majority of respondents belongs to nuclear family type of 62% majority of the respondents (73%) are married. Maximum of the respondents (58%) are illiterate. Majority of the respondents (48%) are self-cultivators. Most of the respondents (62%) earning is between Rs.5000/- to Rs.10000/-. Majority of the respondents (61%) resides in Sheeted house with very poor facilities. Maximum of the respondents (78%) consumes solar electricity.

Cross Tabulation

Cross Tabulation test of the demographic variable such as age, gender, educational level, income and nature of employment of the respondents have been analyzed with the help of chi-square analysis.

Table 1.2 Relationship of Educational level and gender of the respondent with Chi-square.

Gender	Education level		Total
	Literate	Illiterate	
Male	27	21	48
Female	17	35	52
Total	44	56	100
Chi square= 5.621		Sig= 0.018	

From the above table 1.2, among the total of 100 respondents shows in table 1.2. The respondents belongs to literate, there is only 27 males and 17 females. Under Illiterate category 21 males and 35

females. To test whether there is a significant association between the education level and gender of the respondent, chi square analysis was carried out. The significance value is 0.018 which indicate the

significance level is lesser than 0.05 and it is inferred that there is association between education level and gender of the respondents.

Table 1.3 Relationship of Educational level and age of the respondent with Chi-square.

Age	Education level		Total
	Literate	Illiterate	
Below 30 years	18	10	28
30 – 40 years	20	21	41
Above 40 years	7	24	31
Total	45	55	100
Chi square= 10.7401		Sig= 0.005	

Among the total of 100 respondents shown in table 1.3. In the respondents, education level, under literate, 18 of the respondents are aged below 30 year, 20 of the respondents are aged between 30years – 40 years and 7 of the respondents are above 40 years. Under the Illiterate, 10 of the respondents are below 30 years of age, 21 of the respondents are between 30

years -40 years and 24 of the respondents are above 40 years. To test whether there is a significant association between the education level and age of the respondents. Chi-square analysis was carried out. The significance value is 0.005 which indicate the significance level is lesser than 0.05 and it is inferred that there is association between education level and age of the respondents.

Table 1.4 Relationship of Educational level and nature of employment of the respondent with Chi-square.

Name of Employment	Education level		Total
	Literate	Illiterate	
Self-Cultivation	7	20	27
Government job	10	5	15
Private job	29	29	58
Total	46	54	100
Chi square= 7.3329		Sig= 0.0256	

Among the total of 100 respondents shown in table 1.4. In the respondents, education level, under Literate, 7 of the respondents are self-cultivators, 20

are government jobs as low level workers or as basic servants and 12 of them are doing private jobs. Under Illiterate, 20 of the respondents are self-cultivator, 5 are government jobs as low level workers or as basic servants and 29 of them are working in private jobs. To test whether there is a significant association between the education level and nature of

employment of the respondents, Chi-square analysis was carried out. The significance value is 0.0256 which indicate the significance level is lesser than 0.05 and it is inferred that there is association between education level and nature of employment of the respondents.

Table 1.5 Relationship of Monthly Income and gender of the respondent with Chi-square.

Gender	Monthly Income			Total
	Less than Rs5000	Rs5000 – Rs10000	Above Rs10000	
Male	8	40	9	57
Female	12	26	5	43
Total	20	66	14	100
Chi square= 3.0116		Sig= 0.2218		

Among the total of 100 respondents shown in table 1.5. In this, monthly income under earning less than Rs.5000/-, 8 of them are male and 12 of them are female respondents lies in this earning category. Earning between Rs.5000-Rs.10000, 40 males and 26 females respondents falls in this category. Earning aboveRs.10000, 9 males and 5 females’ respondents are there. To test whether there is a significant

association between the monthly income and gender. Chi-square analysis was carried out. The significance value is 0.2218 which indicates the significance level is not lesser than 0.05 and it is inferred that there is no association between monthly income and gender of the respondents.

Table 1.6 Relationship of Monthly Income and age of the respondent with Chi-square

Age	Monthly Income			Total
	Less than Rs5000	Rs5000 – Rs10000	Above Rs10000	
Below 30years	10	12	3	25
30 – 40 years	9	30	8	47
Above 40years	13	12	3	28
Total	32	54	14	100
Chi square= 6.9925		Sig= 0.1362		

Among the total of 100 respondents shown in the table 1.6, in monthly income, under earning less Rs.5000, 10 of them are below 30 years, 9 of them are

30years – 40 years and 13 of them are above 40 years. Earning between Rs.5000 – Rs.10000, 12 of them are aged below 30 years, 30 of them are aged between 30 years-40 years and 12 of them are above 40 years. Earning above Rs.10000, 3 of them aged below 30 years, 8 of them are aged 30 years – 40 years and 3 of them are above 40 years. To test whether there is a significant association between monthly income and

age of the respondents. Chi-square analysis was carried out. The significance value is 0.1362 which indicate the significance level is not lesser than 0.05 and it is inferred that there is no association between monthly income and age of the respondents.

Table 1.7 Relationship of Monthly Income and Nature of employment of the respondent with Chi-square.

Name of Employment	Monthly Income			Total
	Less than Rs5000	Rs5000 – Rs10000	Above Rs10000	
Self-Cultivation	19	25	4	48
Government job	7	12	6	25
Private job	4	20	3	27
Total	30	57	13	100
Chi square= 8.7229		Sig= 0.0684		

Among the total of 100 respondents shown in table 1.7, in monthly income earning below Rs.5000, 19 of them are self-cultivator and 7 are government job, 4 of them are private job holders. Earning from Rs.5000 to Rs.10000, 25 of them self-cultivator, 12 are government job holders and 20 are private job holder and earning above 10000, 4 are self-cultivators, are 6 are government job holders and 3 of them are private job holders. To test whether there is a significant association between monthly income and nature of employment. The significance vale us 0.0684 is not lesser that 0.05. It inferred there is no association between monthly income and nature of employment of the respondents.

Conclusion

The tribals of Anaimalai hills are economically poor and their earning are adequate to lead their life but the household facilities are very

poor. They have only solar power and only Nedungkundruthe electricity is available and for remaining other five settlement the electricity is not available. The government providing few supporting measures. This is not enough for them for their wellbeing so, the government have to assist them financially and also to provide them job opportunity.

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