



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

Paradigmshift on Tribal People Livelihood and Spatial Distribution in Nilgiri District, Tamil Nadu.India.

M. Panneerselvam Dr. R Sunilkumar, V.Kuppurathinam

1. Research scholar. 2. Asst.Professor 3. Research scholar

Department of Geography

Government Arts College, Coimbatore-18, Tamil Nadu, India.

Abstract: Spatial Distribution is needed for the assessment of density of surface which is occupied by dwellers in a particular decade or century. Their periodical growth and cultural, socio economic background was determined in terms of resource utilization, change of Geographical identities due to construction work, natural calamities, Nilgiri district has been predominantly existence of natural resources which belonged to Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu. During British Legacy, the Governance was prelude by the British rulers Headquarters and most of tribes were Tea Estates laborers from Sri Lankan Migrants. Secondly, the fiscal measures on development works had been undertaken for Dams, Forest. This paper highlights the people's occupancy, distribution in order to understand the livelihood characteristics and practices of the past two decades.

Keywords: Tribal communities in Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu, India.

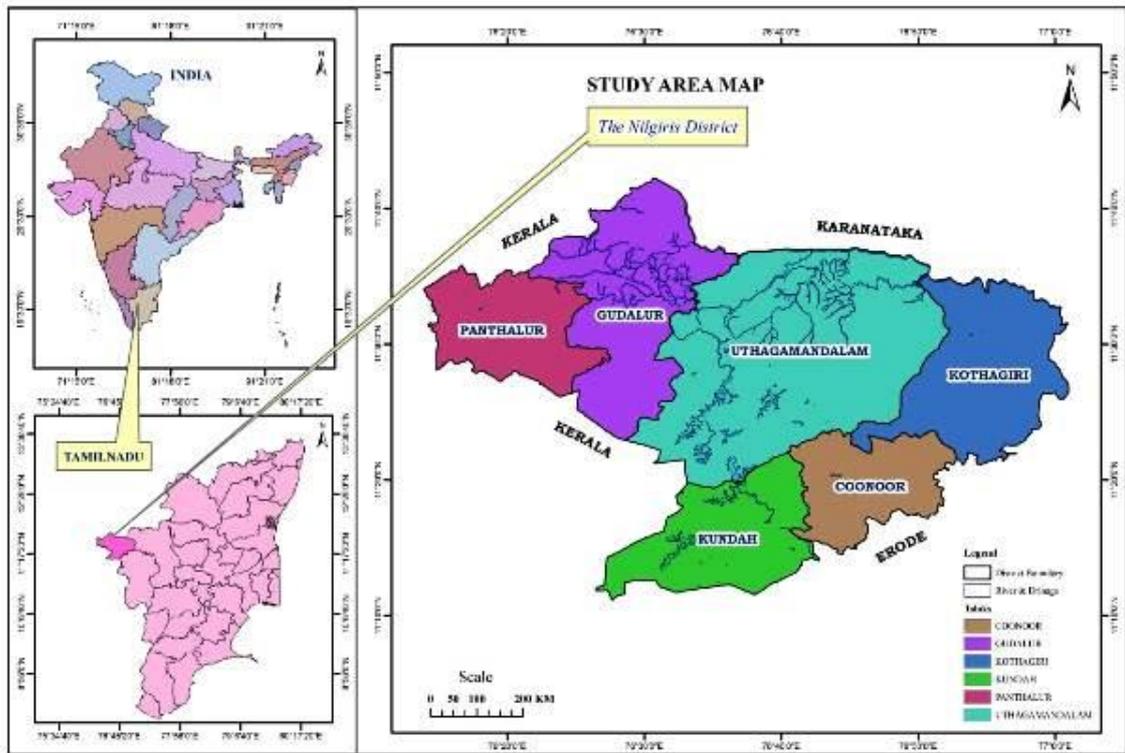
I. INTRODUCTION:

The spatial distribution of population is one of the most important topics of human geography. It is significant because man has brought tremendous change over the earth surface. The term distribution refers to the way the people are spaced over the earth's surface; the emphasis is that, on the pattern of actual place locations of a population (**Chandana and Sidhu, 1980**) The spatial pattern of tribal distribution and their growth in relation to the socio-physical aspect of the state is the main discourse intends to comprehend in the present scenario.

The tribal community's origin, domicile of soil, living status, occupation, cultural fitness are the major components of spatial distribution in every mountain based Geographical parts. In Tamil Nadu state, Nilgiri district is one of the districts with unique features of tribal communities who occupied and engaged for their survival which belonged to natural resources and environmental concern. The spatial distribution for tribal population leads to sequence range of development in accordance with the Government programs; Such as HADP, NHRC for health and water shed development, Hydraulics power Generation, reservoir constructions. This type of developmental aspects would aroused, how they manage for their spatial issues on land use pattern and livelihoods. Therefore, the location of tribal hamlets is equally distributed according to their livelihood operations and land use pattern in the hill zone. This paper describes that decadal growth and paradigm shift on occupational category which decides the pattern of spatial distribution of tribal people in selected blocks of Nilgiri district.

STUDY AREA

The Nilgiri district is located in the North West direction of Tamil Nadu state. The name Nilgiri derives from the Neel means (blue) and Giri means (mountains) and The Sanskrit name "Nilgiris" means Blue Mountains and in Tamil it denotes Neelamalai. The district is a hilly area with 2549 sq.kms and it has found 11°10'N and 11°30' N latitude and between 76°25'E and 77°40' E longitudes. It has made of plateaus, landforms, with numerous perennial streams and equitable climate. The district total population are 735394 and 360143 male 375251 female populations respectively. It is surrounded by the Coimbatore District in eastern side of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka State of western and northern sides respectively. Eastern and Western Ghats has in this district.



STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The spatial distribution is meant for that pattern and geographical structures have determined on the basis of growth and development. It has relevance to natural resources and fiscal measures were handled by the government policy; such as fiscal policy implementation for decadal change or growth, in this context, tribal people's occupancy of land (or) dwelling parts have classified into livelihood operation cultural fitness, occupational background natural resources utilisation have formulates for their living background. It was emerged before independence either their migration, decadal growth of socio-economic background along with government intervention programmes. The spatial distribution was formulated in order to analyse occupational background practiced and designed by government with utilisation of natural resources among the tribal community. Mostly Toda, Kota, Kurumba, Irula, Paniya and Kattunaika are predominant in the selected blocks of Nilgiri District. How they were migrated or originated? Is there any cause with their livelihood pattern and socio-economic background?

What are the changes of developmental aspects with relevance to spatial distribution, among tribal community? Hence, this paper makes an attempt to find out the solution for paradigm shift on economic aspects with relevance to occupational category of tribal growth in order to maintained spatial distribution of Tribal population in Nilgris district.

OBJECTIVES

- To analyse the socio-economic background of tribal people.
- To examine the occupational categories of tribal people with change of spatial distribution.
- To study the changes on decadal growth of tribal people in the study area.

SCOPE

Tribal people's involvement with livelihood operation are directly associated with environmental premises and spatial distribution for requirement on sharing natural resources. The government policies implemented on the basis of fulfilment of amenities which were allocated to all sections of the people. Therefore, tribal group's contribution is required for changing pattern of living status and preservation of forest premises with mountain based zone. Therefore, chronological development, paradigms shift on occupational background will be observed by the geographical concern and government policy adoption. Thus, changing pattern of life style and livelihood operations where leads to paradigm shift on employment are need of hour.

METHODOLOGY

This study is basically from descriptive cum observation with empirical in nature. This seeks to examine the living status and livelihood premises on tribal which relates to spatial distribution of surface structures. Primary data was collected from the selected block's tribal for both forest and revenue villages. The collected data were analysed through SPSS.

Data Analysis: Table-1, Respondents Nature of village - Blocks wise in Nilgiri district

S.No	Blocks	Nature of village				Total	In %
		Forest in No	In %	Revenue Village in No	In %		
1	Udagamandalam	10	21.3	37	78.7	47	100
2	Coonoor	11	25	33	75	44	100
3	Gudalur	12	12	33	73.3	45	100
4	Kotagiri	16	40	24	60	40	100
	Total	49	27.8	127	72.2	176	100

Source: Primary Data -2020

Nilgiri district revenue villages are higher than forest villages. The original tribal communities were settled before independence. The forest department has allotted house for tribal people in certain percentages for those who unable to get resident in revenue villages. The table shows that selected blocks in this study are revenue villages and forest villages. In revenue village category, nearly 75% of the respondents were covered in Udagamandalam, Coonoor, Gudalur blocks which comes under revenue village category and 60% of them are covered within the Revenue village category among the total blocks of respondents in Kotagiri block.

Table-2: Distribution of Age with Gender in Nilgiri District

S.No	Age of respondents in Years	Gender of Respondent					
		Male	In %	Female	In %	Total	In %
1	below 20	14	12.07	6	10	20	11.36
2	21-30	21	18.11	21	35	42	23.86
3	31-40	29	25	19	31	48	27.27
4	41- 50	31	26.72	7	11.66	38	21.59
5	above 50	21	18.11	7	11.66	28	15.90
	Total	116	100	60	100	176	100

Source: Primary Data -2020

Age is prescribed for matured stage and decision making power for every citizen. The component and parameter of spatial distribution for tribal's where identified and settled with economic and social tool is "age". It has observed every past events and incidents were related to their survival fitness and amenities where there is emerged with subsequent observation for life dynamic. In this context, 65% of them male respondents who covered the age category of 41-50 years and 35% of the female respondents who covered the age category of 21-30 years. It is inferred that mostly they are observed about their origin, land shape which is they residing and socio economic background are explained aware level.

Table-3 Blocks with name of Tribal Groups

Name of Block	Name of the tribes												Total Tribes	
	Toda No	In%	Kota No	In%	Irula No	In%	Kurumba No	In%	Paniya No	In%	Kattunaika No	In%	In No	In %
Udagamandalam	19	65.52	14	51.86	11	20.76	3	7.14	0	0	0	0	47	26.70
Coonoor	7	24.14	6	22.22	16	30.19	15	35.72	0	0	0	0	44	25
Gudalur	0		3	11.11	7	13.21	10	23.80	14	100	11	100	45	25.56
Kotagiri	3	10.35	4	14.82	19	35.85	14	33.33	0	0	0	0	40	22.72
Total	29	100	27	100	53	100	42	100	14	100	11	100	176	100

Source: Primary Data -2020

The traditional and prominent tribal communities were dwelling in Nilgiri district. They have followed uniqueness of culture and civilized mechanism for family customs and ceremonies where they reside. The table's shows maximum 100 per cent concentrates of Paniya and Kattunaika in Gudalur block. Then Toda are cover in 65.52 percent and Kotas Tribes are 51.86 percent to engage in Udagamandalam block. Kurumba and Irula Tribes are occupying in 35 percent of Coonoor and Kotagiri Blocks respectively. These tables' shows Kurumbas, and Irula Tribals were settled in scattered levels in, Udagamandalam, Coonoor, Gudalur and Kotagiri Blocks.

Table-4 Place of Domicile with Marital status

S.No	Domicile	Respondents	%	Marital Status	Respondents	%
1	Birth	145	82.4	Married	144	81.8
2	Immigrant	31	17.6	Unmarried	20	11.4
3	-----	-----	---	Widow	9	5.1
4	-----	-----	----	Widower	1	.6
				Divorce	2	1.1
	TOTAL	176	100		176	100

Source: Primary Data -2020

A person who belongs to domicile of soil shows that their ultimate rights to live with freedom and sovereignty. If he or she immigrates from other zone, or out of country, the Government may provide a certain resident permits and privileges to them in order to resident rights and amenities. In this respect, 82% of the respondents (tribal) are belonged to domicile of soil for living status. Remaining 18% of them are immigrant from other zone, either interstate and Srilankan migrants where they connected with tea estate labourers before independence. Regarding marital status of the respondents, 81% of them are married.

Table-5, Occupational status-current year with Before 10 years

S.No	Occupation	2019		2009	
		In No	In %	In No	In %
1	Settle cultivator	11	6.3	6	3.4
2	Tenant cultivator	77	43.8	24	13.6
3	House wife	7	4.0	8	4.5
4	Shifting cultivation	1	0.6	16	9.1
5	Collection of forest produce	2	1.1	4	2.3
6	Animal husbandry	6	3.4	30	17.0
7	Petty business	4	2.3	4	2.3
8	Service	2	1.1	3	1.7
9	Wage earner	53	30.1	66	37.5
10	Student	4	2.3	12	6.8
11	Unemployed	9	5.1	3	1.7
	TOTAL	176	100	176	100

Source: Primary Data -2020

Occupational status of the tribal communities was determined and integral source of the spatial distribution of Nilgiri district before and after independence. The socio-economic background reflects the components of their living status with occupational categories. Either, revenue village or forest village they have survived with proper and sufficient livelihood operations. Tribal people's occupation is tremendously exclusive in nature. They are collection of forest related goods, herbal, leaves which will be utilized for traditional medicine. Table explains that occupational category and its status of tribal who engaged in 2019 and 2009 Years. At present, the settled cultivators who engaged agriculture is meager level i.e. 6%. The same settle cultivators in the same hamlet were engaged 3%. This seems, settled cultivators have gradually increased, but lower level. Similarly, the tenant cultivators also gradually increased from 14% to 43%. the collection forest produce were reduced from 2.3% to 1.1%. The category of wage earner also reduced 7% within a decade. The unemployment position is increased 3.4%. Therefore, there is no major changes for agriculture, forest produce resources as livelihood premises on tribal people.

Table-6, Income from Vegetable –Current with before 10 years

S.No	Income in 2019			Income in 2009	
	In Rupees	Respondents	In %	Respondents	In %
1	Below 2000	2	1.1	11	6.3
2	2001-4000	3	1.7	2	1.1
3	4001-6000	4	2.3	2	1.1
4	6001-8000	2	1.1	1	0.6
5	No income from vegetables	165	93.8	160	90.9
	Total	176	100	176	100

Source: Primary Data -2020

Vegetables cultivation is the prominent work with conducive atmosphere for tribal people who have their own land and the land which utilized under lease (or) provided by government. The spatial design and structure for vegetable cultivation is semi- slope zone which is pertains to the waterfalls (or) reservoir have provides water supply, the mass cultivation is possible only small or medium type of formers. Here, tribal groups are cultivating below 2 acres. Therefore, mixed type of horticulture, plantation crops only cultivated i.e. Herbal leaves, carrot, beans, savchaw, potato, Ginger, Garlic etc., merely RS 4000-6000 p.a through vegetables. It has increased only 1% from the past 10 years.

Table-7, Income from Forest Source –Current with before 10 years

S.No	2019			2009	
	IncomeInRs	Respondents	In %	Respondents	In %
1	Below 2000	12	6.8	15	8.5
2	2001-4000	6	3.4	5	2.8
3	4001-6000	3	1.7	---	---
4	6001-8000	2	1.1	----	----
5	No income from forest	153	86.9	156	88.6
	TOTAL	176	100	176	100

Source: Primary Data -2020

Forest source income is gifted to the tribal people. Besides, their approach and hard work serves as utilization of forest resources. The spatial distribution which courses, a supply of goods and services are properly allocated on the basis of ratio with demand driven approach for plain areas goods and services. Because of its reciprocal services and need where fulfilled their (Tribal) income sources. They are ornamental products from mountain based dry leaf, wood etc., honey collection, herbal medicines, fruits, fire woods (not harmful with environmental premises). Table explains that merely 1% of tribal who earned forest source income up to 6000-8000 pa. Previously it washable to earned 2% of the tribal up to 2000-4000 RS. It is inferred that forest source collection of earnings has been increased.

Table-8Factor Analysis

Variable	Variables	Factor 1 Loadings	Factor2 Loadings	Factor3 Loadings
7	Occupation current	0.970	-	-
8	Occupation Before 10 years	0.977	-	-
11	Agriculture land before 10 years	0.766	-	-
12	Agriculture land at present	0.920	-	-
4	Name of tribe	-	-.246	-
5	Permanent Domicile of village	-	-.210	-
13	income Vegetable- before 10 year	-	0.758	-
14	income Vegetable- At present	-	0.415	-
15	Income from spices -Current	-	-	0.816
16	Income from spices-before 10 years	-	-	0.639
17	Wage at present	-	-	0.594
18	Wage before 10 years	-	-	2.92
20	Disease affected	-	-	2.003
21	Treatment taken	-	-	2.336
	Eigen value	<i>3.219</i>	<i>1.131</i>	<i>0.966</i>
	% of variance	<i>15.329</i>	<i>5.387</i>	<i>4.598</i>
	Cumulative %	<i>15.329</i>	<i>35.374</i>	<i>45.151</i>

Source: Primary Data -2020

The spatial distribution of tribal people's livelihood operations pertains to occupational categories within a decade. The major component which determines that change of occupation with shifting their location. It perhaps interchanged with location either migration (or) encroach by government due to developmental projects are carried out within this duration. Therefore, ultimate influence (or) effects may have ascertained by gradual increase of their income (or) sudden shift of occupation. Basically, their income sources depend on natural with seasonal variations. In case forest department will decide to extend whether they have to provide livelihood sources to the tribals. In this regard, the major infrastructure development will be implemented by the government in the mountain region, such as, road and bridge construction, reservoir- revamp or new type of Cannel, slopes have streamlined for forest development, dam construction etc. The total spatial structure of the surface would reshape with maintenance work. There is no major constructive works were carried out in this decade. The livelihood operations and occupational status itself decide about the spatial distribution on tribal communities in Nilgiri district. Table shows the factor loading results were influenced according to the weight age of parallel increased (or) decreased on occupational shift (or) changed in the particular region. Whereas, the tribal's domicile of soil has belonged birth place as major level (factor loading 2, -0.210, Eigen value 1.13) which observed that there is no interrupted (or) mismatched with nature of tribe and birth place is not immigrant. The irrespective characteristics of birth place; their occupational category was not changed. Secondly, agriculture has been gradually increased and its parallel source of income also increased according to the duration of commodity value (factor 3, .816, Eigen value .966.) the wage rate also positively increased at significant level (0.594 to 2.92) Therefore, the livelihood operations and occupational categories are remaining exist, there is no change. There is no impact (or) affecting factor on spatial distribution where pertains to the occupational category of people and tribal hamlet which is prescribed by the forest.

DISCUSSION

The paradigm shift on occupational status, economic background on the people in civil society, environmental perspectives are the major components and integral parts of spatial distribution. Hence, the surface of land which is occupied for a particular group of social class (or) economically sound in terms of business background will become a strong (or) permanent residentship. But, in mountain based living status are unable to predict for permanent settlement where there is a resident structures, especially tribal occupied zones. In this context, the observation of this study reveals that occupational background is a pillar of residentship which is pertaining to the spatial distribution of Tribals in Nilgiri district.

Based on the market value, Government policy towards fiscal measures need based assessment on people's welfare and provisions, launched various schemes were applicable for the livelihood operations on tribal people and their income source. Mostly, wages and agricultural works and cultivation practices are increased.

CONCLUSION

This study shows and reflects towards tribal people livelihood, migration, cultural norms and fitness, occupational status, changes on occupational categories (interstate migration within this decade) are not contradictory on their living status. The decadal growth is similar to the competition of life, security and economic viability. Besides, there is no encroachment (or) major project implementation which leads land shift, major construction. This much of major construction works results shifting people from existing place to selected place for resident ship. But, there was no major shifting which comes under construction work. On the whole, the paradigm shift on occupational categories was no major change among tribal communities in the selected blocks of Nilgiri district.

REFERENCES:

Annapoorani .R and Sudha .S - Determinants of quality of life of Kotas in Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu -Intercontinental Journal Of Human Resource Management - ISSN: 2350-0859 -Online - ISSN: 2350-0840 -Print -Impact Factor:0.414 Volume 2, Issue 9, September 2015.

Beck P. and Mishra B.K. – “Socio-Economic Profile and Quality of Life of Selected Oraon Tribal Living in and Around Sambalpur Town, Orissa” - Current Research Journal of Social Sciences 2(6): 340-349, 2010 - ISSN: 2041-3246.

Gunasekaran .R – “Socio-Economic characteristics and Educational Status of Pulaya Tribes - A Case Study in Aanaimalai Block of Udumalpet Taluk, Tirupur District, Tamil Nadu” – Dept. of Geography, Govt. Arts College (Aut), Coimbatore - M.Phil.Dissertation submitted to Bharathiar University – November 2017

Jeyakumar .a and Palaniammal .P - Socio-economic status of Scheduled Tribes in Kalrayan Hills – ISSN - 2350-0530 (O) ISSN - 2394-3629 (P) - International Journal of Research Granthaalayah, Vol. 4, No. 3: SE (2016): Pp22-30.

Pujasree Chatterjee - Social and Economic status of tribal women in India – The challenges and the Road Ahead - International Journal of Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Studies (IJIMS), 2014, Vol 2, No.2, Pp 55-60 - ISSN: 2348 – 0343

