

Cultural Perspectives And Problems In English Language Learning Of Narikuravar Community (Nomads) People

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Abstract

Culture is an essential part of a human society.. Each culture has its uniqueness in tradition, beliefs, rituals, language, and physic of the people. They update themselves with technology, gadgets and dress code, but people do not give up their cultural beliefs, and tradition in the modern world. The reason behind is it is connected with identity and emotional bonding of the people. Similarly, the Narikuravar people also have a specific culture and emotion bonding. Culture plays a major role in learning an English language among Narikuravar community students.. This paper attempts to highlight the present situation of the people, culture practices, rituals, beliefs and also problems in English language of Narikuravar community people.

Key Words: *culture practices, rituals, beliefs, and problems in English language learning*

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Introduction

Culture is defined as the way people live their life. It encompasses the way of speaking, dress code, and behaviour of people. The term culture describes food which they like most, how people worship god. Culture is not simply defined tradition, beliefs, customs, and rituals, it incorporates everything of a particular ethnic group of people for instance origin, social background, birth of a baby, family, language, marriage, festivals, celebrations, customs, entertainments, and education. Each culture is different from one another according to the people way of life. This paper deals with cultural aspects, education status, and problems in English language learning of Narikuravar community people.

Narikuravar- An Overview

The word narikurava is composed from Tamil word nari and kurava. The word nari refers jackal and kurava states people. The two different words blended and came into the new form of word is called narikuravar. The name narrates formerly life style of narikuravar people, because the people were hunting wild animals and birds in the forest. The government has prohibited hunting and also entering into the forest so, the indigenous tribes settled in landscape to pursue their livelihood.

Caste Divisions of Narikuravar

The two different people are there among narikuravar people. The one group of people sacrifice buffalo and another group sacrifice goat. The four different caste divisions are there among narikuravar. They are Mevada, Selio, Dabi, Gujaratho, and finally added Pavar. Each group has its own goddess. Though they belong to a particular ethnic group, they have different caste divisions and goddess.

Difference In Goddess And Sacrifices

Mevada group of people worships Meenakshiamman and sacrifices Goat.

Selio group of people worships Mariamman and sacrifices Goat.

Dabi group of people worships Thurkaiamman and sacrifices Goat.

Gujaratho group of people worships Calcutta Kali and sacrifices Buffalo.

Distinguish Identity And Community Status

The narikuravar people identity is changed according to the place where they live in the state. The identity of the people are changed based on their way of life, occupation, and where they settled, the narikuravar people are not exception. In Tamil Nadu state, they are referred as Narikuravargal, In Andhra state they are called Akkipakki one who sell safety pin, Algae. In Karnataka state they are referred to as Nakkalvaadu- Naadodikal (Nomads). The community status differs according to the state, Tamil Nadu they declared as MBC community and rest of the places Andhra and Karnataka state they declared as ST community, but in Tamil Nadu they try to get ST community still the process is going on. The people are yet to get ST community in Tamil Nadu state.

Language Of Narikuravar

The Narikuravar people speak Indo Aryan language called vargriboli. The origin of the language is Indo Aryan family. It is considered as western Indian language, so the people also called as vagris or vagrivalas. There is no written form for this language. Most of the narikuravar people are well versed in Tamil language. Their language includes folk song and oral narration of people and are called by the name vagriboli.

Occupation of Narikuravar People

In earlier times the people had been hunting animals, birds in the forest using gun, but government banned the gun in the year 1993-1994. The people are prohibited to enter even in forest to live their life, so they decided to do alternative jobs like selling Safety pin, Algae, Comb, plastic items, apart from this, the people make packets and selling cardamom, clove anise, bar, dry fruits like grapes, nuts and so on. Though they adapt new jobs like this, there is no stable income to lead their life happily. This is a great barrier for the narikuravar people.

Custom And Entertainment

The people spend their time through playing cards, arranging beads, algae, ruthrastam, playing dhayam (ladder). The youngsters spend their time in playing cricket, khabadi seven stones, and gathering honey from tree, hunting birds, crows, strok, crane, quill, partridge, manipuraa. The youngsters are attracted to dialogues of actors, and follow their way of dressing, riding the bike. They spend more time in altering bike and spend more money in buying accessories for bike. This shows how media had created a great impact among young generation people in narikuravar community.

Educational Status or Education

Before discussing the educational status of people. It is mandatory to tell the settlements of people. previously they lead their life in forest, and then become as nomads. They did not have any particular place for shelter so keep moving to different places where the people wish to go and settle. This reflects in the education and it is a great hindrance for the children in their studies. The child marriage is another problem in their community. Even the parents do not compel their children to go school, it plays a vital role in the life of young children, because they do not have proper awareness in education. There are huge school dropouts in their community. Most of the children continue their studies till 8th standard, then they are not willing to go school. The reason behind is surroundings of the children. When his/ her friends are discontinuing their studies, at the time he/ she is become dropouts in school. As a researcher, it is mandatory to give proper awareness about education to them and uplift livelihood of the people.

English Language Problems And Perception

The narikuravar community students think that English language is very tough to learn, write, speak and read. This make the students to keep them apart from English language, so basically they do not have interest to learn English language. These all have created them to not realise the importance of English language in global world. The mother tongue (vagriboli) and also Tamil language influence in English language learning. It makes them to commit more errors in writing English language basic words such as primary, school, middle, arts, happy, standrad, police, house, and so on. As a researcher, it is to teach basic English language to the narikuravar community students and also to realise the importance of English language in the society.

Summing Up

This paper focuses on indigenous life of narikuravar people. Every culture has its own limitations, rules and regulations. Culture reflects in the field of education for particular community people. They do not have any guidance to lead their life in systematic way. The insecurity in job, no stable income makes them withdraw from education without realizing the importance of English language in the present world. The researcher in this paper will analyse how people are leading their life without stable income and proper education.

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