

Adivasi And Tribes Of India

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Abstract: India is home to around 573 tribal groups and communities. The Adivasis are indigenous peoples and are believed to be the first inhabitants of India. In India the "original inhabitant" contention is based on dubious claims and that the adivasi - non adivasi divide that created is artificial. It should also be noted that in Northeast India, the term Adivasi applies only to the Tea-tribes imported from Central India during colonial times, while all tribal groups refer collectively to themselves by using the English word "tribes". Many smaller tribal groups are quite sensitive to ecological degradation caused by modernization. Besides that, Adivasi the word is used in the same sense in Nepal as is another word janajati (janajāti). The term "Scheduled Tribes" refers to specific indigenous peoples whose status is acknowledged to some formal degree by national legislation. A collective term in use locally to describe most of these peoples is "Upajati" (literally "clans/tribes/groups"). The Scheduled Tribe groups who were identified as more backward communities among the tribal population groups have been categorized as 'Primitive Tribal Groups' (PTGs) by the Government at the Centre in 1975. This societies are present in the Indian states of Kerala, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Mizoram and other northeastern states, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. We will discuss about their location & lifestyle in this article.

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-- (1) EAST INDIA (2) WEST INDIA (3) CENTER PART
(4) NORTH INDIA (5) SOUTH INDIA and (6) OTHERS

MAINLY EAST INDIA HAVE -- ABHOR, AHIR, AMIR KARIB, ANAL, ANGMI, AO, APATANI, ASUR, BANGRI, BODO, BHIM, BHUTIA, CHAKMAS, CHANGS, DAFLA, DI MASA, GALONG, GONGTE, HMAR, KHASI, KHOND, LALUNG, MUNDA, NAGA, SANTALI TRIBAL

Abhor tribes are found in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. Aka tribes also are found mainly in the Andaman Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and also in parts of Assam. They used to speak Aka (now an extinct language) on the Andaman Islands and Aka Leka, a dialect of Nisi, in Assam. This people celebrate the Nechido Festival every year on the first day of November. Apatani tribes, also described as Apa, are found south of the Tibetan border in the states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland. Their language is also known as Apatani. These tribes are renowned for their cultivation, especially the Terraced rice fields, which are located along the sides of the valleys. Amri Karib or different name Mikir, Manchati, Mikiri, Karbi, tribes are found in the Mikir and Rengma Hills of Assam. They speak Amri, a dialect of Mikir. Angami: tribes are found in Kohima, the capital of Nagaland. Besides that the Ao tribe is found in the Mokokchung District of Nagaland The main festivals of the Aos are Moatsu and Tsungremmong celebrated during the first week of May and August, respectively. Asurs tribes are found in Bihar and West Bengal. Anal tribes are found in Manipur. Aimol tribe also found in Manipur.



Bangni inhabit the hills of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. Their native language, Nisi, belongs to the Tibeto-Burman language family. Bhutia are Buddhists tribes found in Assam, along the border with Tibet and in Nepal. They are also known by the names Lhasa, Dalai, Pohbetian and Tebilian. They speak Tibetan. Bhutia Tribe is preferably rice with animal fat. They are common beef eaters. Their traditional and favorite dishes are Momos, Gya Thuk, Ningro with Churpi, Sidra Ko Achar, Saelroti, Shimi Ko Achar, Pakku, Kodo Ko Roti, Phapar Ko Roti, Silam Ko Achar, Phulaurah Gundruk,



Phagshapa, Sael Roti. Bhutias are fond of Chaang (the millet beer), it is served in the special bamboo container called Tongba with the hollow pipe made of Bamboo. Tea with milk and sugar, and butter tea is also served in religious or social occasions. Bhutia Tribes speak in Sikkimese Language. Even Nepali is spoken by wide population of Bhutia Tribe. Apart from these the Bhutias Speak Hindi, Bhutia, Lepcha and English. The main festival celebrated by Bhutia Tribes are Losar and Losoong.



The first week of the February is Losar as it marks the beginning of the Tibetan New Year. Losoong is celebrated at the end of the harvest season and also the end of the Tibetan year. It is the most important festival among the Bhutia tribes in India. During this festival Chaan dancing's and merrymaking at the monasteries at Palace (Tsuklakhang), Phondong and Rumtek are enjoyed by the tribe. The main attraction of the festival is Archery Competition. Boro (Bodo) tribes are found in Assam.



Bhim tribes found mainly in the eastern state of Tripura. Bathudi live primarily in the districts of Mayurbhanj, Kendujhargarh and Balasore in the state of Orissa. Most Bathudis are bilingual, speaking their native language, Bathudi and Oriya. Baiga Known by names like Baigai, Bega and Bhumia, these people are found in Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal. Their language is also known as Baiga. Birhor tribes are found in the Hazaribagh, Singbhum and Ranchi districts of Bihar and parts of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal.

Chaimal, Halam, Jamatia, Lepcha, Riang, Tippera and the Tripuri, contribute to the some total of the existing culture and heritage of Tripura. They using the common 'Kokborok' conversing language, other beautiful dialects help them maintain the interactive session. With the presiding deity

“Tripura Sundari” the tribal believe the place to be linked with the epic era of Mahabharata. The important tribal festival, Karchi Puja, dedicated to the 14 Gods is held every year during the month of July. The tribal women in Tripura are much more stylish than their men. Women wrap the lower portion of the body with 'Ringai' whereas they cover the upper half with 'Risa' and 'Rikuttu'. The 'Ringai' pattern and the dangling silver and metal jewelry in their body is the way to differentiate one tribes from another.



Tribes in Tripura are very much fond of non-vegetarian cuisines, specially made of fermented fish. The merriment includes the boiled meat of pork, chicken, mutton, beef, turtle, fish, crabs, prawns, frogs and even dogs.

Changs tribes are found in the Tuensang District of Nagaland. Chekhasang Tribes are found in the Phek District of Nagaland. Chakhesang culture and customs are quite different from the other Naga tribes. There are evidences of the existence of head-hunting among the villagers in the ancient days. Chakmas tribes are found in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, West Bengal and parts of Bangladesh. They speak Chakma language.

Dafla tribes are found in Arunachal Pradesh. Dimasa are Proto-Austroloid tribes found in Meghalaya and Mizoram. Dimasa the tribe from the North Eastern India, is a part of the greater Bodo - Kachari group.



Dimasas live in the Jatinga Valley in the North Chhachar Hills of Assam. Dimasas are supposed to be the aboriginals of the Brahmaputra Valley ascending from the Himalayas with their roots connection to the Great Hindu Epic Mahabharata. The Dimasas living are highly influenced by the Bengali Culture.

Galong live in Assam, along the Tibet border area. Their language is also known as Galong. These tribes, also known as Gallong, Gallo, Galo and Adi-Galo. Gongte tribes are found in Manipur. Garo comprise the largest population of tribes in Meghalaya. These tribes can also be found in other states like Assam, Tripura, West Bengal and Bangladesh. It is believed that Garos migrated to Meghalaya about 400 years ago from Tibet. Garo people are also known by the name of 'Achik-mande' or hill people. As almost all the states in North East India were explored by Christian Missionaries, most of the

Garos adopted Christianity. These tribes speak Garo language. In Garo tribes, women are the owners of property thus making it a matrilineal society. There is a custom where the youngest daughter inherits the property from her mother and man shifts to his wife's place after getting married. These tribes are also lovers of music and dance. They use various traditional musical instruments like stringed instruments, wind instruments and self sounding instruments. Men flaunt turban with clothes in villages. Whereas, blouse and a cloth tied around their waist is worn by Garo women. They also love to wear traditional jewellery made of beads and other material. Garos also celebrate different festivals.



Wangala is one of the significant festivals of these tribes which is generally celebrated in the month of October. This festival is celebrated after the harvest of crops as thanks giving ceremony to their deity Salijong. Rice is the staple food of Garos and most of them are non-vegetarians. They also make liquor at home from food grains. Their main cultivation crops include rice, ginger, millet, bananas, vegetables, pepper, chilli and cotton.

Hmar known as Mhar or Mar are the dwellers of the North Eastern Part of India.

Hmars can be found in Meghalaya, Mizoram, Cachar, Meghalaya, Chittagong Hill Tracts and Tripura.



The Hmars belong to the Chin-Kuki-Mizo group of tribes, and are recognized as Scheduled Tribe under the 6th Schedule of the Constitution of India.

Khasi Tribe of Meghalaya, a state in the North Eastern Part of India. They live in the Jaintia Hills in the state of Meghalaya. West Bengal, Mizoram, Maharashtra, Tripura, TamilNadu, Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Historically Khasi tribes of India are regarded as the earliest migrants from Myanmar. The sub - divisions of Khasis i.e. the Wars, Khyntriams, Pnars and Bhois. The Khasis have well defined homelands. They speak in Khasi language. They have typical Indian tribal culture. Rice is the staple food of the Khasi. They also consume fish and meat and occasionally drink rice beer. Their festival is 'Nongkrem' and 'Shad Suk Mynsiem. Dance and music are the integral part of their life. Drums, Guitars and flutes are some of the instruments

mastered by Khasi tribe. The marriage culture is very unique as the groom has to live in the bride's home after marriage. Men wear long sleeveless without collar coat known as 'Jymphong', headgears or turbans. Women are very fond of wearing jewelry and earrings. Both the genders wear silver chains at their waists.



The major part of Khasi tribe follow Christianity. For them God U Blei Nong-thaw is the supreme creator and goddess who protect them from all the troubles of life. Ulei Longspah (god of wealth), Shnong (tutelary deity of the village) and many other gods are also worshiped.

Maram tribe are found in the state of Manipur.



Mundas are the Adivasis or the Tribals of the Jharkhand. They spread over other states like Bihar, West Bengal, Chhatisgarh, and Orissa. Outside India Mundas can be found in Bangladesh. A one fourth of the population among Munda Tribal Community is Christian. They speak Mundari language. Rice beer is favourite drinks of munda community. Their special dance form is called as Nupur (an anklet) dance. Wearing Nupur in ankles, they dance in chorus. they believe in the Supreme Being known as the Singbonga, which means the Sun God. Some of the Mundas tribes also worship Lord Shiva. Their festival is Mage, Phagu, Karam, Sarhul, Holi, Sohrai, etc. Munda tribes in the ancient days was woodcutters, hunters. Gradually they converted into the settled agriculturist. But most of them do not have land of their own and are largely dependent on the labor work in the fields to earn.



The Munda society is governed by Panchayat, they have built up Parha System of Government. 20 year old Birsa Munda was revered by his people as God. He turned into a Prophet and was a freedom fighter in the Indian Independence

Struggle and the young age of 25 he died in suspicious circumstances in the Jail of Ranchi in 1900.

Oraon tribes are mainly found in the states of Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa. In the ancient days, they living by chopping timber and selling forest products. Majority of the population of Oraons can be found in Northeastern states engaged in the occupation of tea cultivation. Oraon are the most progressive tribes of all the tribes found in India. They are the ones who are into education and places like Churches. Kartik Oraon, who was the most educated Oraon, an Indian Congress leader and former state communication minister of India, Albert Ekka, the Paramveer Chakra awardees (Highest Award For Bravery in India). Orans speak the language called Kurukh. It is taught in Ranchi University. Oraon tribes are Hindu. They are religious minded people and worship Gods and Goddesses. But a great number of these tribes have adopted Christianity. In the ancient days, this community used to follow Sarna religion.



Oraons are further divided into sub-castes like Kudas and Kisans, who follow Patrilineal family customs. There are a total of 14 clans in Oraon tribal community like, Gari, Lakra, Kispotta, Runda, Tirky, Toppo, Linda, Ekka, Kuzur, Bek, Kerketta, Bandi, Minz and Khalkho. Sarhul and Karma are the two main important festivals of these tribals. They are also very fond of music and dance. Karma, Jadur, Dassai and Kagha Parva are their most favorite dances. Traditional instruments like Nagara, Kartal and Mandar are still used by these people.

Santhal tribe the third largest tribes in India. Belonging to pre Aryan period, these tribes of India are found in regions of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand. Historically, santhal tribes were fight against Britishers, and their heroics against Lord Cornwallis are well known. Many famous personalities such as Sidhu and Baba Tilka Majhi were part of these enthusiastic tribes of India. Santhali is the prime language of them. Besides that they also speak Bengali, Oriya and Hindi. This Indian tribe also have a script of their own called Olchiki.



The Santhal Tribe head is called as Manjhi Hadam. Manjhi is helped by various others like Jagmangjhi, Jagparanik, Naike and Gudit who work in the other fields in diverse areas. They have a typical tribal lifestyle. Basic needs are fulfilled by forest trees and plants. The tribes are also engaged in fishing and cultivation. These tribes of India also possess a magnificent skill of making musical equipments, mats and baskets out of the plants. Dancing and music are the streamline of these Indian tribes. Women dress in the red bordered white sari. They were dance in the line sequence. These tribes play mind soothing music with instruments like Tirio, Dhodro banam, Phet banam, Tumdak, Tamak, Junko and Singa. Ironically, Santhals don't have a temple of their own and neither do they worship any idols. These tribes of India follow the Sarna religion, with Marangburu, Jaheraera, and Manjhi as their god and goddess. Santhals pay respect to the ghosts and spirits like Kal Sing, Lakchera, Beudarang etc. Animal sacrifices in order to appease the Gods is a common practice amongst these energetic tribes of India. They celebrated karam, Maghe, Baba Bonga, Sahrai, Ero, Asaria and Namah festival. They also celebrate haunting festival called Disum sendra on the eve of Baishakhi Purnima.

WEST PART OF INDIA HAVE BAGRI, BHIL, CHAMAR, DAMARIS, DHODIA, ORAN TRIBE

Bagri tribes are found mainly in western India, in the states of Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, and Madhya Pradesh. They are an Indo-Aryan people, and their language is also called Bagri. Bhils are considered as the third largest and most widely distributed tribal groups in India. Bhils are the tribes of Central India found in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.



Out of India they are found in Bangladesh. They are the third largest tribes in India after Gonds and Santhals. There are two divisions of Bhils: the Central or "pure" Bhils, and the Eastern or Rajput Bhils. The Central Bhils live in the mountain regions in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan. They are known as the connecting link between the Gujaratis and the Rajasthanis and are one of the largest tribal communities of India. They speak Bhili, which is an Indo-

Aryan language. The Bhils are known to have fought against the Mughals, Marathas and the British. Some famous names of Bhils are Bhim, Bhim Singh Maharana, Bhimisi and Bhindar. All of them have special place in the ancient history of India. Bhagoriya literary means to elope.



This festival is highly celebrated by the Bhils populace in the Jhabua region of the state. The merriment is dedicated to the worship of Bahgoradav (God of dance) and is held one week before the festival of color, Holi. This very popular tribal festival highlights the love, romance and marriage among the tribal folks. Adivasi Girasia tribes inhabit the Banaskantha and Sabarkantha districts of Gujarat and are believed to be the descendants of the Rajputs who married Bhil women. The name "Girasia" refers to the Rajput and other landholders living in the Gujarat and Rajasthan regions. Their language, also known as Adivasi Girasia, is an Indo-Aryan language belonging to the Bhil subgroup. Barda tribes are found in Gujarat. Bavacha tribes also are found in Gujarat. Barel are considered to be the sub-group of Bhils. They speak Barel language. The Baurias are also considered as a sub-group of Bhils. Their language is also known as Bauria. Bhilala are located in several states in western central Indian but mainly in the districts of Dhar, Jhabua, and West Nimar of Madhya Pradesh. Their language, which is called Bhilala, is a subgroup of the Bhil language, which belongs to the Indo-Aryan linguistic family. The Bhilala are considered as nobility among the Bhil, since they are the direct descendants of the Rajput chiefs who took the daughters of the Bhil chieftains to be their wives. Some amount of Bagri tribes are located mainly in the states of Haryana and Banjara tribes in Gujrat.

Chamars are found in the States Maharashtra. They speak in chamari. Charan tribes are found in Gujarat.

Damarias tribes are found in Rajasthan. Dubla tribe contains twenty sub-groups, of which the Talavias have the highest social rank. Dubla live primarily in the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Rajasthan. They speak Dubla, a Bhil language. Gamti is one of the Bhil tribes that live mainly in the Surat and Broach districts of Gujarat. They speak Gamti, which is one of the Bhil languages. Among the Bhil, the word gamta means "headman," possibly giving the Gamti a feeling of superiority over other Bhil tribes. Gosains tribes are found in Madhya Pradesh. Gotte tribes, also known as Podia Koya, are found in the jungles of Madhya Pradesh. Their language is Podia Koya, which is a dialect of Koya. Gracias tribes, known by different names like Garasia, Rajput Girasia, Dungri Grasia and Dhungri Bhili are found in Gujarat and Rajasthan. Their language is known as Garasia. Gujjars are semi-nomadic tribal people found in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. They known by names like

Gujuri, Gujer, Gojri, Kashmir Gujari and Rajasthani Gujuri. Their language is known as Gujuri.



Lambanis lead a gypsy life and mainly inhabit the western Indian states including Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. A part of this tribal community is also found in the northern region of Karnataka. The Lambani tribe of India speak a language which is believed to have been originated in the state of Rajasthan. Earlier, Lambanis used to supply grains to armies. In the olden days, the Lambani people carried grain, salt, bamboos and firewood. The tribal community used oxen to carry heavier commodities. Women of Lambani tribes wear decorated clothes or fabrics. Jewellery is also an essential part of these tribal women's lifestyle. Lambani Women wear bone-made finger rings, bangles and bracelets. In addition, they adorn their hair with flowers and balls. Men of the Lambani tribes are mostly seen dressed up in tight breeches, which extend a few inches below the knee.

CENTER PART OF INDIA HAVE -- AHIR, BAIGA, BHIL, CHAMAR, GOND, KHASI, SANTHAL, PEOPLE

Ahirs tribes are the traditional dairymen caste of Uttar Pradesh.



Awadhi Known by different names like Abadi, Abohi, Ambodhi, Baiswari, Kojali and Kosali, these people are found in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and parts of Uttar Pradesh. They speak in Awadhi, which is a dialect of Hindi. Baiga Known by names like Baigai, Bega and Bhumia, these people are found in Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh.



Their language is also known as Baiga. Binjhari or the Binjhals, live in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal. Although their native language is Binjhari, many of these people also speak Chhattisgarhi. Braj Bhakha tribes are located mainly in the states of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Their language, Braj Bhasha, is a member of the Indo-Aryan language family. Chamars are found in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.



Their language is known as Chamari. Gonds lost their lives in saving their lands from the then upcoming tribe called the Banjaras. Mainly found in Central India. Apart from Madhya Pradesh, Gonds can be found in Chattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. They are the largest Tribe in India with four million people. Historically, the Gonds were the most important group of the original Indian tribes. In the 1500's, several Gond dynasties were established and their rajas or kings ruled like Hindu princes. The Gonds were conquered by the Muslim armies in 1592 but their tribes were not disturbed by the changes in administration. They speak language related to Telgu. The Gonds preach the Gods path and do agriculture as their main work. Herding cattles is also a part of their livelihood. Abujmaria tribes are found in the geographically inaccessible areas of Abujmar Mountains and Kutrumar Hills in the Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh. They speak a Dravidian language called Abujmaria. The Hill Maria tribes are considered as a sub-group of the Gonds.



Besides that Banchharas tribes are found in Madhya Pradesh. Bedia tribes are found in Madhya Pradesh. Bison Horn Maria are a small tribal group located mainly in Gadchiroli district in Maharashtra and also in parts of Madhya Pradesh. Many scholars believe that the Bison Horn Maria is part of the Gond tribe, while others consider them to be an earlier indigenous tribe assimilated by the Gonds.

Saharia tribes is located in central India.



These Indian tribes are very enthusiastic as far as their culture and traditions are concerned. If you wish to explore Saharia tribe then you are expected to visit the state of Madhya Pradesh. These tribes of India are also found in the hills of Ganjam district of Southern Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal and Bihar. These Indian tribes speak in Munda language.

NORTH INDIA HAVE BANJARA, BANGRI, CHAMAR, GADDI, GUJJAR, KHASI, TRIBES

Bakarwals are the nomadic tribes of Kashmir. Some Banjaras tribes are concentrated in Himachal Pradesh. They known by different names in different places like Lamani, Lambadi, Bangala, Banjori, Banjuri, Gohar-Herkeri, Goola, Gurmarti, Kora, Labhani Muka, Lambara, Lavani, Lemadi, Lumadale, Sugali, Tanda, Vanjari, Waji, Gormati and Singali etc., Their common language is Lamani. Bhadrawahi tribes are located predominantly in Jammu and Kashmir. Bombas are the Nomads inhabiting the rugged hills of Kashmir. Bangri tribes are located in the states of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.



Their language is Bangaru. Bhotia tribes are found in Himalayan Mountain ranges of Himachal Pradesh. They speak in Lahuli and Tinan: They Known by names like Lahuli, Tinan, Lahauli, Rangloi and Gondla. Beda tribes are found in himacal Pradesh. They celebrate Bhunda festival every after 12 years.



Chang-Pas tribes found in the northern upland valleys of the Indus River in Jammu & Kashmir. They speak in Tibetan dialect.

Dog-Pa tribes are found in Jammu and Kashmir. Their language is known as Shrin. They also known as Srin, Shrin and Brog-Pa. Dogris tribes are known by various names like Dogri-Kangri, Dhogaryali, Dogari, Dogri Jammu, Dogri Pahari, Tokkaru and Dogri-Kangra. They are mainly concentrated in Jammu and Kashmir between the Ravi and Chenab Rivers. Many Dogris also live in Pakistan. The Dogris are a hardy people, divided into several castes and sects. Their language is known as Dogri-Kangri.

Gaddis are the Tribes of the Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. In the earlier years the Ancestors of Gaddis left India during their tough times. Later on with the Chauhan Rajputs Brahman Gaddis descended to the place called Chamba in Himachal Pradesh. They are also found in Kangra district, near Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh. Their language is also known as Gaddi. They are known by names like Bharmauri Bhadi, Pahari Bharmauri, Panchi Bharmauri Rajput, Gaddyal and Gadi.



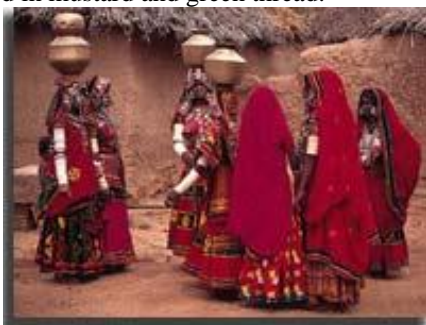
Garhwali or the Central Pahari are a hardworking and often isolated people who are primarily located in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. Gujjars are semi-nomadic tribal people found in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. They known by names like Gujuri, Gujer, Gojri, Kashmir Gujari and Rajasthani Gujuri. Their language is known as Gujuri (also called Parimu and Hindki). Some historians believe that the Gujjars were the inhabitants of Georgia (Gurjia).

SOUTH PART OF INDIA HAVE ADIBASIKA, ADIYAN, ARANTAS, BADAGA, BETTAKURUBAS, BUNDE, BANJARA, CHENCHUS, CHETTIER, ALLAN, GAMIT TRIBAL

Adivasika are forest dwellers found mainly in Northern Kerala, near Calicut. Adiyian tribes also are found in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. They are known as Eravan. alar tribe also known as Chathans or Chatans, tribes are found in the Kerala-Palghat region. They speak Alar and Malayalam. Arnatas tribes also known as Aranadan and Eranadans, these tribes are found in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala. They speak Aranatan and Malayalam. Badaga Also known as Badag, Badagu, Badugu and Vadagu, these tribes are found in the Nilgiri and Kunda Hills of Tamil Nadu. Their language is also called Badaga. The name "Badaga", meaning "northerner," was given to this group during the Middle Ages when they migrated from the Mysore plains to the Nilgiri Hills

in southern Tamil Nadu. Bettakurubas tribes are found in Karnataka. Bunde Soligas tribes are found in Karnataka.

Banjaras tribes are mainly concentrated in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka. They known by different names in different places like Lamani, Lambadi, Bangala, Banjori, Banjuri, Gohar-Herkeri, Goola, Gurmarti, Kora, Labhani Muka, Lambara, Lavani, Lemadi, Lumadale, Sugali, Tanda, Vanjari, Waji, Gormati and Singali etc. Their common language is Lamani. Famous language spoken among the Banjaras like Urdu & Telugu. Kutni is too popular. Banjara Women's dressing is the most colourful. Their dress is "ghaghra" and "choli" (a embroidered blouse).Banjara women wear a full length skirt with borders embroidered in mustard and green thread.



They also wear pretty silver anklets. Silver, brass, gold, cowries, ivory, animal bone and even plastic are used in making a Banjara wardrobe. Banjaras worship Goddess of prosperity Lakshmi. Andhra Pradesh Banjara Tribe celebrate Holi and Dusshera. A variety of dance forms are performed during the festival. Ugadi is the most famous festival celebrated by Banjara tribes of India. They consider Lord Venkateshwara of Tirupati as their family deity. Banjaras have a good habit to save a lot of money so that they can go to Pilgrimage to the temple of Lord of seven hills popularly known as Balaji temple. Marriage is something to look forward for vibrant tribe of Odisha. Liquor flows freely on the first day of the wedding when the bridegroom and the relatives are welcomed at the `tanda` of the bride. Banjaras give royal welcome to the groom's family by offering betel leaves and nut. On the day of marriage, boy and girl exchange seven round balls made of rice, ghee and sugar as this is the special thing of a Banjara Wedding. Then the couple hold hands and does seven rounds of grain pounding with pestles. Square silver ornament bottu is tied round the neck of the bride. The grooms' family is given a good feast. There is a band of material tied around the waist that strengthens a skirt or trousers. Food of Banjara is Bati which is Roti. Daliya is a dish cooked using many cereals (wheat, jawar). Banjara people are very much fascinated and like non-vegetarian food. Saloi (made from goat blood and other parts of goat) is non vegetarian dish made especially by Banjara People. Banjaras prefer eating spicy food.

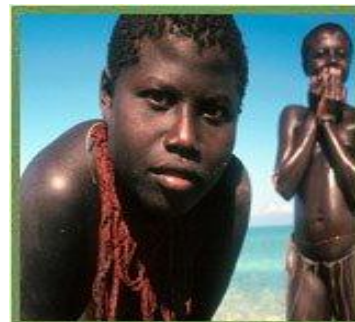
Chettier is the Hindu fishermen caste of Tamil Nadu. Chola Naickans tribes are found mainly in the Nilambur jungle in Kerala. They speak Canarese, a dialect of Kannada. Chenchus are the Hindu Tribes. They also Known variously as Chenchucoolam, Chenchwar, Chenswar and Choncharu. Who are found in the Central Hills stations of Andhra Pradesh and also part of tamil nadu, Karnataka, and orissa.



Chenchus are the Aboriginal Tribe who still consider hunting for their livelihood rather than farming. Selling meat is one of their major activity. The Chenchus are the food gathering tribe. They are collect jungle products like roots, fruits, tubers, beedi leaf, mohua flower, honey, gum, tamarind and green leaves etc. Their native language (also called Chenchus) belongs to the Dravidian language family. But mostly speak Telgu. Chamars are found in the States Maharashtra. They speak in chamari. Eravallan tribes are found in Kerala. Gamit and Lambani tribal community are found in the state of Karnataka.

OTHER TRIBES ARE FOUND IN THE ISLAND

- ✓ Amindivi, tribes are found in Lakshadweep.
- ✓ Beda tribes are found in Ladhak.
- ✓ negrito tribal family are found in Andaman nikobar Island.



Another one is Jarawa tribes.



They are loketed in Andaman. Jeru, Khora and Andamani Hindi are the major languages spoken by Andamanese tribes of India. Men amongst the Great Andamanese tribes wear narrow belts or girdles of hibiscus fiber. They usually have a heavy body, so it suits their personality. You can also see weapons tucked into their belts when they go for hunting. The women folk of these tribes of India have a typical tribal dress sense. Branches of leaves cut into stripes held by belt of pandanus leaves and tail skirt amongst the girls form the dress

code of women of Andamanese tribes. They usually eat rice, wheat, dal, chapati etc. Besides this, Great Andamanese tribes also prefer non vegetarian stuff such as fish, turtle eggs, crabs, roots, seeds and tubers. Pork and Andaman water monitor lizard are the prime eat up of Andamanese tribes of India. They cultivate vegetables and run poultry farm. But hunting is the main source of food and occupation with these tribes.

We can see, the tribal community scattered all over India. From ancient days to still they live in rural areas and economic exploitation remains their most acute problem. Less than 10% are shifting hunter-gatherers but more than half depend on forest produce for their livelihood, many in the form of the tendu leaf, used for the production of bidis (local cigarettes). They live in cloistered, exclusive, remote and inhospitable areas such as hills and forests. Their livelihood is based on primitive agriculture, a low-value closed economy with a low level of technology that leads to their poverty. They have low levels of literacy and health. Even they have a marginal degree of contact with other cultures and people. But Hinduism today is actually descended from an amalgamation of adivasi faiths,

idol worship practices and deities, rather than the original Indo-Aryan faith. This also includes the sacred status of certain animals and plants, such as monkeys, cows, peacocks, cobras (nagas), elephants, peepul, tulsi (holy basil) and neem, which may once have held totemic importance for certain adivasi tribes.

But now, most of the tribal people awaked and recognition themselves. They want to do meaningful their life. Day by day they are move to city and industrial area for education and job. They want to earn money for better life. As a result they developed their life so much. I hope they will not stop, develop themselves more and more.

REFERENCES

- [1] Article and news about Adivasi & Scheduled Tribes are collected from several News papers, Magazines and websites

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