

## ANALYSIS OF SOCIO ECONOMIC PROFILE OF HAKKI- PIKKI TRIBES OF KARNATAKA

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**Abstract:** The study was conducted to assess the Socio-economic status of Hakki-Pikki tribes of Angadihalli, Hassan district, Karnataka. Primary data was collected through structured interview schedule using sample size of 200 tribes based on proportionate sampling techniques. More than half the respondents belonged to middle age group and were illiterates. Their main occupation was business. Majority of them lived in semi pucca type of houses (67%). More than half of the respondents belonged to low income group and maintained nuclear family (73%). The social participation and interaction with non-tribal (public) was poor. They live in poor sanitation conditions and unhygienic routine practices (lack of toilets and sanitary conditions for women in the community) with semi-nomadic lifestyle and unhealthy feeding habits. They had a frequent visit to forest areas for fetching some forestry products and part of their traditional practices. The nutrition level of community was poor. The livestock rearing practices was nil with no animals but some respondents had backyard poultry, sheep and goat along with companion animals.

**Keywords:** Socio economic profile, Hakki- pikki tribes, Angadihalli, Hassan

### Introduction

The *HakkiPikki* is a diminishing tribe in Karnataka, members were earlier living in forests, hunting animals and birds for their livelihood. These communities were originally residing in the Seegegudda State forest, they moved out of the forests after laws curtailing their right over forest produces were implemented. The population of Angadihalli is 1500, apart from *Hakki Pikki*, there are members of Sillekyatha, Budubuduke and most of them are nomads and wander from one place to other. Basically, the HakkiPikkis are non-vegetarian. The food habit is almost not completely isolated and independent of nomadic way of life. One of the reasons of HakkiPikki nomadism is said to be their food habit (Mann, 1981)

The Hakki-pikki tribes are semi nomadic tribal people, have four clans namely the the Gujrathioa, Kaliwala, Mewara and Panwara. They speak many south Indian language such as Kannada, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam along with Vagribooli which is similar to Gujarati

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been there locality language. The origin of Hakki-pikki tribal communities have got a rich history and said to be ancestral relation with the legendary Ranapratap Singh. The Hakki-pikki tribal community are Kshatriya or warrior tribal community who had to migrate southern India after their defeat with Mughal kings (Guruprasad et al., 2015). They have unique experience to hunt and capture birds and animals alive without damaging to creature and wounds. They follow seminomadic lifestyle where male person in family go outstation for labour work, business and extraction of forest products. While women maintain the family in his absence and earn by selling beads, polishing beads, organizing decorative flowers and vases. The Hakki-pikki tribal have knowledge of ITK for preparation of medicine and massage creams using various medicinal plants. The forest is in a radius of 10-15 kilometres from the tribal location, which favours their frequent visits to forest. The consumption of alcoholic drinks is common among men, women, young and old aged making them habitual drinkers. On festival and ritualistic occasions, they prepare meethakhana or sweet dishes and celebrate in their own way. When the male member of the Hakki-pikki family will be out for part of the year, where woman of the Hakki-pikki tribal community maintains the family. The Hakki-pikki tribal community women also take a trip selling beads in general execute skillful jobs like polishing beads, organizing decorative flowers and vases amongst the tribal communities. Some of the Hakki-pikki tribe use to go abroad for business they have the habit of travelling (Guruprasad et al., 2015).

## **Materials and Method**

### **Study area:**

Hassan district begins at the bottom of steep Western Ghats and continues into Deccan plateau. It is located between 12° 13' and 13° 33' North latitudes and 75° 33' and 76°38' East longitude. The extreme variations in climatic condition, especially in rainfall, naturally result in a wide range of vegetation. Angadihalli is village on the Hassan-Bellur road and it has been selected for the rehabilitation of members of the HakkiPikki tribe.

The village had a population of around 300 houses of Hakki-Pikki tribal with more than 2000 people and other tribal such as Budbudake and Sillekyatha live in adjacent locality of same village. The village had general population of 3000 people belonging various caste and religions. For the analysis, the primary data was used. A sample of 200 tribes was used. Primary data was personally collected from the respondents through structured interview schedule developed for the purpose and the collected data were tabulated and analyzed.

## **Results and Discussion**

The study provided the following information regarding the socio-economic profiles of tribes.

### **Age**

More than half of the respondents belonged to middle age at the time of enquiry, followed by more than one fourth in young age and 7 per cent in old categories (Table. 1).

### **Gender**

The female respondents were 58 per cent and 42 per cent were males. The reason for this might be due to the reason that males were involved more in agriculture than the females (Table. 1).

### **Literacy**

The majority (58%) of the tribes were illiterates followed by 27 per cent can read and write, 15 per cent can only read (Table. 1). The literacy rate among the tribes, was 36.0 per cent in 1991 and been increased to 48.3 percent in 2001 and latest to 53.9 per cent in 2011 (Roy et al., 2015). Hence the overall status of literacy in HP tribe is to improved.

### **Family size**

Family size of more than half (58%) of the respondents were in medium size (3-5) category, while 29 per cent and 13 per cent belonged to large and small family size categories respectively (Table. 1). Dakshayani and Gangadhar, 2016 reported that nuclear family concept in HP tribes is more preferred.

### **Family type**

The nuclear family is common and accounts for nearly 73 per cent of the respondents, while 27 per cent in the joint family categories respectively (Table. 1).

### **Type of house owned**

Housing pattern of HP tribes is regularized with about 67 per cent of respondents were residing in semi-pucca type of house. About 10 per cent owned pucca type of house, whereas 23 per cent owned kutch house for living (Table. 1).

### **Social Participation**

The HP tribe people found to be shy and conservative with majority (95%) of respondents did not have any social participation. It is evident that only 5 per cent of respondents had social participation (Table. 1).

### **Occupation**

The visit to forest areas is been monitored by forestry department, so much of tribes (55%) were involved in business. About 23 per cent were involved in labor work, 16 per cent were

involved in agriculture, where rest 5 per cent were private employees and only one is working in government sector (Table. 2).

### **Land holding**

The HP tribes migrated long back to this place and were allotted with some land by government but most of them have lost or sold due to improper guidance and literacy. It is evident that more than half (55%) of the respondents had 1 acre of land, whereas 33 per cent of respondents had 1-2 acres of land, only 12 per cent of respondents had more than 2 acres of land (Table. 2).

### **Annual Income**

The income varies round the year where more than half (65%) of the respondents had low level of annual income followed by medium level (32%) and 3 per cent with high income (Table. 2). This is mainly because the fluctuation in business proportionate and availability of raw materials or buyers. Similar results were found in bedara tribe as reported by Ranganatha and Vijaya, 2014.

### **Livestock Possession**

The poor livestock hoarding been noticed by HP tribes. They revealed that 34 per cent of respondents were rearing backyard poultry followed by 5 per cent of respondents with sheep and goat. But none had cattle/buffalo which is indirectly affecting the nutritional status among the community (Table. 2).

### **Material possession**

The modern technological equipment's made the human life much easier with ease of performing the work. The possession by HP tribes is not less than any other general populations. Most of the respondents had the motorcycle, television and mobile in their houses (Table. 2).

### **Consumption of Livestock products**

All the respondents had the habit of consuming chicken, mutton and pork, but consumption of egg and milk was low (Table. 2). Dakshayani and Gangadhar, 2008 has reported that various breast feeding strategy in HP tribe population which has direct role in nutritional status of the tribes.

### **Conclusion**

The social participation of HP tribes is very low, may be the low literacy rate or social domination by other higher hierarchy dominance. More than half of the respondents belonged to middle age at the time of enquiry. Majority of them were illiterates. More than half of the

respondents belonged to low family income group and maintained nuclear family (73%). More than half (58%) of the respondents were in medium size (3-5) category. Majority of tribes (55%) were involved in business. The respondents maintained backyard poultry (34%), sheep and goat (5%). All the respondents were meat consumers, still the nutritional status is low because of unbalanced food ration.

### **Recommendations**

1. Provide the livestock to interested people on loan repayment basis.
2. Improve the nutritional status of female and children by supplements.
3. Improve the educational setup and promote the schooling days in children and possibility of adult education.
4. Health education of sanitation and hygienic practices.
5. Providing places in local statutory body for social participation and representation.

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**Table 1: social parameters and profile regarding HP tribes with living status of study population (n: 200)**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Categories</b>	<b>Tribal respondents (per cent) n:200</b>
<b>Age</b>	Young (<20years)	70 (35%)
	Mid (20-40 years)	116 (58%)
	Old (>40 years)	14 (7%)
<b>Sex</b>	Male	84 (42%)
	Female	116 (58%)
<b>Literacy</b>	Read only	30 (15%)
	Read and write	54 (27%)
	Illiterate	116 (58%)
<b>Family size</b>	Small (<2)	26 (13%)
	Medium (3-5)	116 (58%)
	Large (>5)	58 (29%)
<b>Family type</b>	Nuclear	146 (73%)
	Joint	54 (27%)
<b>Type of houses owned</b>	Kutchra house	46 (42%)
	Semi-pucca house	134 (67%)
	Pucca house	20 (10%)
<b>Social Participation</b>	Yes	10 (5%)
	No	190 (95%)

**Table 2: Economic parameters and profile regarding HP tribes with living status of study population (n: 200)**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Categories</b>	<b>Tribal respondents (per cent) n:200</b>
<b>Primary Occupation</b>	Labour	46 (23%)
	Agriculture	32 (16%)
	Private employees	10 (5%)
	Govt. employee	2 (1%)
	Business	110 (55%)
<b>Land holding</b>	Low <1 acres	110 (55%)
	Mid 1-2 acres	66 (33%)

	High >2 acres	24 (12%)
<b>Annual Income</b>	Low<50k	130 (65%)
	Mid 50000- 1lac	64 (32%)
	High >1 lac	6 (3%)
<b>Possession of animals</b>	Cattle	Nil
	Sheep and goat	10 (5%)
	Backyard poultry	67 (34%)
<b>Material possession</b>	Motorcycle	50 (25%)
	TV	164 (82%)
	Mobile	188 (94%)
	Fridge	64 (32%)
<b>Consumption of livestock products</b>	Chicken	200 (100%)
	Mutton	200 (100%)
	Pork	200 (100%)
	Milk	80 (40%)