



MYTHS AND UNWRAPPED MYSTERIES

Meena S. Kumar

M.Com Finance, Lekshmy Bhavan, Thrikkanamangal, Kottarakara P.O, Kollam, Kerala.

ABSTRACT Myths and mysteries surrounding it is an exciting area to work on, as some of these practices are very strange, yet many people claim to have benefited by strictly adhering to these fallacies. Superstitious practices and mythical beliefs are believed to be outdated as a result of advancement in science, but it is not completely true. Many people in and around Kerala, especially those living in the rural areas or outskirts of villages, still strongly believe in these practices. Some of these practices are very interesting to hear but for the ones who experience the bitterness, it is cold and for the ones who have benefited from following such fallacies, it is still a ray of hope. A lot of unwrapped mysteries surround these mythical beliefs. Certain practices are found to torture you emotionally rather than physical torturing. All these practices and fallacies are found to have an effect on the overall view about the society and even prevents them from following advanced methods for solving certain troubles.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To analyze the extend of influence of superstitious and mythical practices.
- To evaluate the attitude of young generation towards these practices.

Major Findings

- People residing in the outskirts of villages still adhere to such mythical practices.
- Scientific progressions and literacy tends to have reduced the influence of these strange believes upon the young generation.
- As a result of obtaining positive results on following such practices, people tend to believe in such fallacies.

KEYWORDS :**INTRODUCTION**

Kerala, being a land of natural beauty also has in her some strange mythical magic. My place is famous for a lot of highly exciting yet sometimes very disappointing superstitious practices. Answers to all questions have not yet been scientifically proved since some people strongly argue on their wishes being fulfilled by following these non scientific methods.

There exist a practice in some parts of Kerala wherein if you offer areca nut along with its supplementary stuff to goddess yakshi, you are sure to regain your lost accessories. Anyway it costs only less than the value of what you may have lost which motivates people to adopt the practice. Surprisingly many people claim to have regained their lost properties after their offerings to yakshi amma. The journey on these strange fallacies have just begun. Once you go beautifully to a wedding or a function and comes back home tired and having a body pain, you are supposed to do something which suddenly relieves you. You should take some chilli, spray some salt on it and without uttering a single word should circle the tired person and if the person doing the ritual gets a burp, you surely had been watch through evil eyes. But since you are now being subjected to this ritual, you are free from the evil shadows.

The act of doing witch- craft is yet another fallacy in practice. Once you want to achieve something which you failed to achieve by offering prayers to god, you can now take the aid of evil powers. Some people believe that it will help you for sure in achieving your desires. Witch-craft is also done for destroying or disturbing others. Once you feel you are not satisfied or happy with someone else life, you can cast a black magic spell on them. There are people specialized for this purpose who does the koodothram to cause disturbances to your enemy. This practice commonly involves doing some evil spell on an egg and you will be directed to place that egg at a particular point at your enemies house. Once the target crosses the egg, his blessings will vanish and a bad omen falls on him. For severe koodothrams, it is said that the target ultimately faces a lot of health and financial troubles, loses his family life and even starts vomiting blood. These hoodos or black magic is done secretly in many places.

Once you are being scratched by a cat, there is no need to go a hospital. Instead you should go ten rounds around a drumstick tree and should bite a branch. It will cure your discomfort. If you ought to touch or eat the seed of a Charu maram, believed to be a cursed tree, seen on the outskirts of villages, you will get a curse which ultimately results in health issues such as itching, formation of red pores all around the body and pain in the body. As a remedy, you should go nude around a Thaani tree, commonly called as Thaani Ammavan, and narrate a prayer. It is

said to cure all your illness and remove the curse. Many beneficiaries have praised Thaani ammavan for its magical power.

Being a women, one is subject to a lot of locked doors which tends to become more stronger as a result of these fallacies. In those seven revolutionary days in a month, a women is subject to varied kind of emotions. In addition to those difficulties, here comes a lot more uncomfortable beliefs which when tends to be violated, is supposed to give you a curse. In those days, a women should never touch a tulsi plant, a sacred plant, and if you dare to touch it, it will dry off. Out of curiosity I once touched a tulsi plant, but surprisingly, it stood green and healthy. Never dare to wear to jasmine flower on those days or else goddess Lekshmi will be furious upon you. I seriously doubt if goddess doesn't have any other important things to do or prayers to answer. In the outskirts of many villages, there still exists many such practices some of which are obviously of no harm but others does create a wide drama.

CONCLUSION

Myths and mysteries surrounding it is a topic which assumes importance as even in this twenty first century, people tend to believe in such practices which cannot be explained with the aid of science. On making certain offerings to god or devil, you are believed to make great achievements, destroy your enemies and frustrate the young ones. People who tend to believe strongly in these practices hesitate to accept these fallacies as mere superstitions since they claim to have benefited. Existence of good and bad forces, evil eye and koodothrams are the main fallacies found to dominate people. Despite of the drawbacks spotted as a result of scientific advancements and modern thinking, there still exist some unanswered questions on how would be the aspirations of people be fulfilled by following such practices and is there really something more deeply to be researched of. Some questions have not yet been solved.