

Globalization and Change in Santhal Tribes at Paschimmedinipur (West Bengal,India)



Social Science

KEYWORDS : Globalization, Education, Modernity, Modern Technology , Govt. Policy& Santhal

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ABSTRACT

The Santhal society, is one of the most primitive caste among the oldest tribal of India, and it is also the largest tribal of India (Social Geography ,Ahmad Ajiazuddin). The Santhals, who number more than 5 millions, consider themselves as a <tribal> people speaking a different language (austrasiatic) and sharing a way of live which implies values different from those of the Hindus (Tambas Lyche.M.C.2007).In case of social structure it shows that the most of the Santhal live in Paschim Medinipore, the district of WB. The people of the Santhal society mainly depends on subsistence farming They leads a very simple and distinct life . They believe in superstition, and these are the main cause of their backwardness. The paper scan the influence of globalisation in socio-culture aspect of the Santhal migrants and how they have carried forward various modern values in their tribal society. It also developed in to how the new agricultural technology have been utilized after going back at the place of origin and how it promotes the modern their values in their daily life . It helps them to overcome from the conservative and also the society has been modified and improved their life-style. There have a lot of changed in their thinking of social, economic and political. As a result the Santhal have overcome their inertia and announce themselves as the important part of this beautiful world.

INTRODUCTION

The Santals are one of the Munda peoples who live mainly in the state of Jharkhand, Bihar, west Bengal, Odisha and Assam. There is also significant Santal minority in neighbouring Bangladesh and small population in Nepal. Specifically study area at PaschimMedinipur district in West Bengal(Social Geography, Ahmad Ajiazuddin). The Santal tribes of India have a typical tribal life style. Basic needs are fulfilled by forest trees and plants. The tribes are also engaged in fishing and cultivation. These tribes are India also poses a magnificent skill of making musical equipment,mats and baskets out is worth wathing.The study concentrates on the influences of modern values and institution in the day by day of the Santal spread of education, modern technology and migrants, sociologists have noted changes in the social, economic and cultural life of tribals due to such migration. More particularly the have been exposed to the processes related to modernisation and globalization. The impact of such changes can be seen in their changing cultural values, occupational structure and role perception. More particularly, the diminishing significant of patriarchies in the social life of the Santal is evident. In the traditional tribal society, specific role was assigned to man and women for maintenance of their age old tradition, custom etc. Dependency on forest based economy also influenced their cultural norms, traditions and values. But as a result of tribals have come close to new forms of life, institutions and values that have encouraged social transformation in their society. The basic objective of this chapter is to understand the impact of spread of education and modern technology on the Santal. The tribal have migrated from their hinterlands to various agriculturally rich areas and urban citycentre mainly in search of jobs. The tribal has brought various changes in their day to day activities, age, old customs and traditions. They have been influenced by the people and new cultural traits at the place of destination. In this sense, education and migration has exposed them to various aspect of modernity. Keeping these arguments in mind, this paper has been dealt with linkages between spread of education, migration and modernity as well as the facets of modernisation and its impact on the tribal society.

SOURCE OF DATA

1.PRIMARY DATA :-

Field Survey –

a. Observation

B. interview (face to face)

2.SECONDARY DATA :- a. Books

b. journals

c. Internets

d. Other :

> Contact details of Block Development officers"- Paschim Medinipur Districts , WB Govt.

>Provisional population totals, W.B, Paschim Medinipur, Census of India 2001,Census Commission of India. Retrieved – 2011-04-10.

>Department of Panchayet and Rural Development, WB Govt.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The study was designed to fulfil the following objectives:-

1. To find out the social, economic and political changes in the Santals life.
2. To find out the changed occupational structure.
3. To compare sociality between the traditional and new social structure.
4. To find out the socio-economic and social class wise spread of the new technology in PaschimMedinipur district.
5. To find out the globalization changed whole system of the Santallife.
6. To find out the impact of globalization on production, productivity & income of the sample village in PaschimMedinipur district (WB).

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Generally one of the major problems of the Santal regions is low standard life style. Because, most of the Santals are dependent on agriculture and hunting for their livelihood. And their agriculture system are most primitive mainly subsistence farming.

Primitive occupational structure, superstitious belief and as the society is very conservative, it results their life style is very backward. But the impact of Globalization in developing the Santal life style at PaschimMedinipur district of West Bengal, India.

METHODOLOGY

A household survey of 200 households was conducted on Santal of Paschim medinipur district of West Bengal. In order to study gender difference, data were collected from 100 men and 100 women from these households. Men ranged in age from 35 years to 87 years with a mean age of 61 years, whereas women ranged

in age from 30 years to 80 years with mean age of 55 years. Data were collected from several villages Garhbeta – 2 block of Paschim Medinipur district, West Bengal.

Using household survey & multi stage random cluster sampling method.

Date of birth of subjects was recorded by asking them.

Study area

The study has been conducted in Garhbeta-2 block, of West Bengal state. For this Research study to villages from one block were selected on the basis of three-stage multi-level sampling from Paschim Medinipur of W.B state.

Garhbeta -2 block is (community development block) an administrative division in Medinipur Sadar sub-division of Paschim Midinipur district in the Indian state of West Bengal. Goaltore police station serves this block. Headquarters of this block is at Goaltore. Goaltore is located at 22 42 36 N, 87 10 16 E. Garhbeta -2 community development block has an area of 445.48 sq km . As per 2001 census, Garhbeta -2 block had a total population of 1,31,085 out of which 66,954 were males and 64,131 were females. Population density are 290 / sq km (760 /sq mile). This area time zone IST (UTC + 5.30), Lok Sabha Constituency are Jhargram , Bidhan Sabha Constituency are Garhbeta , Salboni . (Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia).

Impact on modern indicators

The Santhal society has changed for modern indicators. This process are simple for migration. This process of migration is a complex one as it involves of challenges both for the migrants and for the locality as well. The society and social institutions of migrants are subjected to change and they under go several changes or modifications to fit in to this changing system. Theoretically speaking, there remains the possibility of the migrants adopting the new cultural perspectives, new ideologies and belief from the very first moment they join the new society and consequently they may also bring these changes to the place of origin. But , in reality , these changes might not be revolutionary to replace tradition with modernity (Saren Gurupada , July -2013). Most Santhal are still attached to their own culture and consider most important to overcome the divide between the home and the school atmosphere, which co-exist as two separate world (Tambas Lyche. M.C.2007). Mainly modern indicators (Technology, Health, Education) are influence them. Now-a-days as-well-as technology has developed, so it effect on the Santhal society.

Result and discussion

Changed traditional SOCIETY and culture

Globalization effects tribes (Santhal) differently . The gains of globalization have so far accrued to those who already have education and skill advantage, easier market access and possession of assets for use as collateral to access credit. For the santhal society , globalization is associated with rising prices , loss of job security , and lack of health care and tribals development programs (Rresponses of Santhal To The Globalization: Kumar Vikramendra). The social dimension of modern indicators refers to the impact of globalization on the life and work of people, on their families and their societies . Anthropologists have time and again demonstrated the symbiotic relationship between the Santhal economy , culture and society with the ecology at a given time and space. Not with standing diversity of cultural practices , therefore , the Santhals of India represent certain uniformities . But , The Santhals society and culture witnessed several changes particularly since independence in India. And one of the major factors influencing them and bringing them close to other groups and societies of the con-

tris in migration . Migration are closely related to Globalization for impact of modern indicators. The process of migration is argued to have exposed the Santhal to non-santhal and often urban way life. The impact can be seen in the field of cultural language , traditions occupation, customs and so on. I have also tried to identify the areas of changes in the life and the culture of the modern indicators. Table no 1.1 portrays these areas of changes . Interestingly respondents acknowledging the impact of modern indicators have asserted that is difficult for them to sustain the age old belief and practices in society to days. On side , it helped them to fight starvation and various economic problems. On the other side, it has directly influenced them to accept certain aspects of Bengali culture at Paschim Medinipur districts of W.B. leading to deterioration of traditional culture. One areas of such changes is cooking style , ingredients , new type of westerns dresses. All these have led not only to the entry of new cultural symbols and practices among them; they have also started either ignoring the dictates of traditional leaders or trying to impress upon these leaders as-well-as educate them about various new norms and values.

1.1) mode of changes SOCIETY & CULTURE:-

SL. NO	AREA OF CHANGES	NUMBER OF RESPONDING		
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1.	Traditional And New Culture Mixed	31(31.00%)	26(26.00%)	57(28.50%)
2.	Involve Traditional Culture	22(22.00%)	24(24.00%)	46(23.00%)
3.	Involve New Culture	16(16.00%)	21(21.00%)	37(18.50%)
4.	Ignore Traditional Leaders	13(13.00%)	13(13.00%)	26(13.00%)
5.	Educated Themselves About Changing norms & values	10(10.00%)	10(10.00%)	20(10.00%)
6.	Do Not Know	8(8.00%)	6(6.00%)	14(7.00%)
TOTAL		100(100.0%)	100(100.0%)	100(100.0%)

traditional OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE Agriculture and others

Globalization is often associated with the integration of the world, with the market breaking open the barriers across nation states in terms of flow of trade, finance, technology, knowledge, culture and even movements of people ("Responses of Santhal To The Globalization" – Kumar Vikramendar). Impact of globalization are spread of the Santhal society, and changed their occupational structure mainly agriculture system. The people of the Santhal society mainly depend on Subsistence Farming. They belief superstition and these are the main cause of their backwardness. But now-a-days spread of education, modern technology, new method of agriculture and advancement of research has changed agricultural pattern of the Santhal.

The tribal people have been deeply influence by modern agriculture practices in terms of uses fertilizer, pesticide, modern equipment and other necessary instruments in the field of agriculture practices. At the place of destination, these migrants learn about various modern methods of agriculture (Mahapatra, sitakanta -1986). In this context I have to understand the impact of globalization on the Santhals occupational structure. Table no – 1.2 shows that extent of the impact of globalization on agriculture in some detail. It clearly shows that many of the migrating san-

thal have been deeply influenced by modern agriculture system. At the place of destination, these migrants learn about various modern methods of agriculture and they carry forward to practice it at the place of origin. Further they try to grow new crops like "potato and master seeds" at their land during the rainy season along with rice. It is a fact that modern agricultural practices have enlightened their mind set and allowed them to go for diversification (Impact Of Globalization On The Santhal -Soren, Gurupada-2013).

1.2) Globalization changed AGRICULTURE :-

SL NO	EXTENT OF IMPACT	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS		
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1.	To Understand The modern Agriculture system Fully	48(48.00%)	39(39.00%)	87(43.50%)
2.	To Understand the Modern Agriculture System a Large Extent	21(21.00%)	19(19.00%)	40(20.00%)
3.	To Understand The Modern Agriculture System To Some Extent	09(09.00%)	12(12.00%)	21(10.50%)
4.	Do Not Have Any Impact	14(14.00%)	10(10.00%)	24(12.00%)
5.	Do Not Know	08(08.00%)	20(20.00%)	28(14.00%)
TOTAL		100(100.0%)	100(100.0%)	200(100.0%)

The Santhals use the traditional form of economy and its sole objective to sustain their livelihood through subsistence agriculture. But now-a-days occupational structure has changed. There are many type of work. As for example - any type of service (govt. and private), doctors , teachers , &small and big shop etc.

ReformsECONOMIC status

The Santhals use the traditional form of economy and its sole objective to sustain their livelihood through agriculture and their economy is forest based. The Socio-economic states of the Santhals in India are depend on agriculture and forest based activity.

About 95% of the Santhal are involved in agricultural operation, collecting hunting and fishing were once very important source of living now they have been reduced to a subsidiary status. Animal husbandry is common but plays a comparatively minor role in maintaining the food supply. In fact , the Santhals depend mainly on "paddy cultivation" as their chief source of livelihood(Soren, Siru, Interviewed By Author - Village Elder, Santhal Nogaon : 27th December 2010).

Hence, their economy is often called "under-developed", is not "primitive". This economy is also based on "custom" and "tradition". There are specific customs stressing participatory function and specific role to be played by each number of the family and community. The tribal economy is predominantly forest based and they also take care to preserve the ecological balances with the nature and sustain their livelihood. But exposure to modern economic practices teaches them to exploit the nature and "consume" it is products (Impact Of Globalization On The Santhal - Soren, Gurupada - 2013).

As a result the traditional tribals (santhals) economy has changed by globalization. I have also tried to identify the area of changes in the Santhals economy. Table no - 1.3 the portrays

impact of globalization on the santhals (seasonal migrants) of Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal , India.

1.3) globalization changes ECONOMICstatus :-

SL. NO	LEVEL OF IMPACT	NUMBER OF ECONOMY		
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1.	High Developed Economy	69(69.00%)	62(62.00%)	131(65.50%)
2.	Middle Developed Economy	19(19.00%)	12(12.00%)	31(15.50%)
3.	Low Developed Economy	09(09.00%)	09(09.00%)	18(09.00%)
4.	No Changed Economy	01(01.00%)	05(05.00%)	06(03.00%)
5.	Do Not Know	02(02.00%)	12(12.00%)	14(07.00%)
TOTAL		100(100.0%)	100(100.0%)	200(100.0%)

Motivate on EDUCATION

The "Education" is the heart of any community or society. On the other hand the "Education" is the backbone of any community or society. As education spread among the people it enables them to educated themselves and their community so that they can develop and utilize methods exploits the situation in the society for their own development. One hand, education are changed their whole society. Education is the key of the future for any nations, on the otherhands without education develop are not possible.

With education, modernity can't progress beyond imitation and duplication, without education the individual can rarely improve the quality of his/her life.

In this area many tribal schools are plagued, but high dropout rates. As a result education level of the study area is quite low. But now-a-days govt. policy like "SORBO SHIKSHA AVIJAN" and "MID-DAY-MEAL PROJECT" has influenced the spread of education.

I have noticed this earliar while discussing the education background of the migrants themselves. It is in this respect that migration proves to be positive for the Santhals. And all authorities concerned have recognized the urgent need to trained special teachers for tribal areas, the employment of numbers of the tribal community. Who have receive a basic education, has helped to cope with the demand for teachers able to teach in the mother tongue. For the Indian educationists, it is important to teach tribal childrenin the mother tongue for the three first years at last, to ensure their cognitive development (Saini -1980). But the parents, who fill the time spent to school should lead to quick result in terms of employment, view the concentration on the mother tongue with little enthusiasm. Thus, while the Santhal elite tries by all means to give an English Medium Education to their children, lower middle classes often decide that learning through Hindi, Oriya and Bengali mediums will give their chil-

dren access to administrative jobs. The rejection of one's mother tongue is motivated by individual strategies, which often turn to disaster, however (Saran, Gapani – 2003). Some of the educated santhals, unqualified for proper jobs, remain unemployed or work in inferior jobs. This youth, who have tried to assimilate themselves in the dominant culture, have dreamt of finding employment in a state institution or, at least, a white collar job (Tamblyche, Marine, carrin – The Impact Of Culture Diversity and Globalization).

Impact of globalization they has been realised and fill of the necessity of better education for their children and family members. They have experienced students at medinipur towns attending school, college and university. They also wish to see their children going to college and university and there by become eligible for government jobs. Village youths (Santhal) interacted have showing their interest in taking vocational course like, I.T.I and Polytechnic. Table no – 1.4 portrays the impact of globalization on the tribal (Santhals) of Paschim Medinipur, W.B, India. From the above discussion it is observed that a sharp change has been in the impact of globalization.

1.4) globalization changes EDUCATION level :-

SL. NO	LEVEL OF IMPACT	NUMBER OF RESPONDENT		
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1.	To a Great Extent	62(62.00%)	45(45.00%)	107(53.5%)
2.	To a Little Extent	20(20.00%)	32(32.00%)	52(26.00%)
3.	No Impact	14(14.00%)	13(13.00%)	27(13.50%)
4.	Do Not Know	06(06.00%)	10(10.00%)	16(08.00%)
TOTAL		100(100.00%)	100(100.00%)	200(100.00%)

Changed HEALTH status & Welcome modern medi-system

"Health as, a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease and infirmity"(WHO – 1971). On the other hand health is a "state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being"(WHO – 1984). Health is the one of the most important aspects of human life. The Millennium Goals (MDG) has also emphasized "Health for All". This goal has become important in view of the poor health status of many Santhals(tribal) man and women at the place of origin (Soren, Gurupada-2013).

Despite remarkable world-wide progress in the field of diagnostics, curative and preventive aspect of health, still there are people living in relative isolation, in natural surroundings, maintaining a socio-cultural distance from others.

Mahapatra (1994), therefore sees health among tribal groups as a functional and not clinical concept. Sachidananda (1994) sees the field of tribal health aspects as a cultural concept as well as a part of social structure and organisation which is continuously changing and adapting itself to changes in the wider society. It is a faith, prevailing among tribes that diseases are caused by supernatural agencies. Broadly, the tribal people believe in four type of supernatural powers. These are:-

1. Protective spirits who always protect them.
2. Benevolent spirits who are worshiped at the community and familial level regularly, otherwise they may bring diseases or death.
3. Malevolent spirits the evil spirits who control small pox fever, abortion etc. and
4. Ancestral spirits, the spirits of their ancestors and always protect them.

The causes of ill health perceived by the tribal communities can be divided into two categories, namely, known and supernatural. Singh(1994) indicates nine factors to examine and assess the tribal health situation in India. He highlight the effect of changing physical environment on tribal health, which is ultimately related to their economic pursuits, nutritional, availability, medicines etc. It has also been emphasized that ecology and tribal health is intimately related.

Studies of Barth (1956) reveal how ecological niche influence people's health status.

Gurupadasoren (2013) –On the one hand, these people continues to rely on age old practices of herbal medicines which is sustainable given their closeness to nature and forests. But on a large scale diseases caused by polluted water and lack of nutrients remain untreated. On the other hand, the involvement of Ojhas including practices Black magic and sorcery for healing from various diseases make them vulnerable.

But now-a-days their health concept are fully changed. It is here that migrants see a new role of modern medicines to cure their ailments and serious, major diseases. This access to modern medicines available Medinipur Medical College and Hospital, other Block Level Hospital and Primary Health Center. Guite and Acharya (2006) have shown that the acceptance of a particular health care system among the tribal people mostly depends on its availability and accessibility. It is interesting to note that while the tribal groups following traditional religion traditional medicines putting religious or supernatural value on it, the converted Christian tribes use the some medicine excluding its religious time. The study reveals that education has been able to heal the traditional inhabitation of tribal people to attend PHCs without ignoring the importance of traditional healing practices. Gurupada Soren(2013) this is certainly an improvement given the negative impact of such practices on the tribal life and society. These migrants therefore feel the need to change to psychic of the tribal elites and aged persons towards the modern medicines and develop strategy to ignore the practice of black magic, sorcery for leading a healthy life.

I have also tried to identify the areas of changes in the Santhal health system. Table no – 1.5 portrays the impact of globalization on the Santhal are welcome to new medi-system of Pascham Medinipur, West Bengal, India.

1.5) globalization changes HEALTH system :-

SL. NO	LEVEL OF IMPACT	NUMBER OF RESPONDENCE		
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1.	Belief Traditional Health System	32(32.00%)	38(38.00%)	70(35.00%)
2.	Belief Modern Health System	46(46.00%)	40(40.00%)	86(43.00%)
3.	Local Area Available	12(12.00%)	08(08.00%)	20(10.00%)
4.	Do Not Know	10(10.00%)	14(14.00%)	24(12.00%)
TOTAL		100(100.0%)	100(100.00%)	200(100.0%)

Outlook New political concept

The social dimension of globalization refers to the impact of globalization on the life and work of people, on their families, society and politics.

But, unemployment is another issue which is hovering in the

minds of youth. Sometime these also lead to deviation and they are easily trapped by Naxalite' leader for waging the incessant battle against the local state government. Tribal, on one hands allege that they are harassed by the Police if they don't co-operate in anti-naxal operations. If they help the Police then it means death at the hands of Naxals. Life for the tribals was always a struggle but brutal execution of government officers like has made it worse. People don't like violence but with so much unemployment they often get attracted to the Naxal folds. However, they soon realize that Naxal style of functioning is not good and therefore they leave. Naxals say they the government's apathy towards the tribals and under-development in the region more on discrediting the state machinery, therefore "Naxalism" in this area is the political problem (Vikarmendra Kumar). But now-a-days the impact of globalization on the level of political awareness has change. It has influenced them to become more aware about their political rights and there by franchise their votes during the elections. The migrants have also started joining local political party at the place of destination with the hope to address their. Table no - 1.6 shows the impact of Globalization are motivate to participation of politics.

1.6) Impact on political awareness :-

SL. NO	LEVEL OF IMPACT	NO OF RESPONDENTS		
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1.	Traditional System involved	42(42.00%)	40(48.00%)	90(45.00%)
2.	Interest Politics Of Their Society	38(38.00%)	28(28.00%)	66(33.00%)
3.	Join Local Ruling Party Member	16(16.00%)	06(06.00%)	22(11.00%)
4.	No Interest	01(01.00%)	04(04.00%)	05(2.50%)
5.	Do Not Know	03(03.00%)	14(14.00%)	17(8.50%)
TOTAL		100(100.00%)	100(100.00%)	200(100.00%)

Summary & CONCLUSION :-

This report beings with a review of traditional pattern of Santhals livelihood and changed on impact of globalization at Paschim Medinipur, state of West Bengal. The first chapter deal with objective and methodology of the study. The present report had made on attempt to discuss the traditional pattern of tribal livelihood in Paschim Medinipur district, W.B, India. This report has also discussed the changing scenario of Santhals livelihood patternin study area.

Changing traditional society and culture of the Santhals are presented in table no - 1.1. Major percentage of the Santhal are belief Traditional New Mixed Culture (57.50%). One hand 23.00% santhals carry out their Traditional Culture, on the other hands 18.50% Involve the New Culture for the impact of globalization.13.00% ignore the Traditional Leaders. 10.00% people are changed for the Education, Norms and Values, 7% people are Remain Inactive. Change Traditional Occupational Structure mainly Agriculture System are present in table no - 1.2. Major percentage (43.50%) of the Santhals understand The Modern Agriculture System fully. 20.00% understand the Modern Agriculture System A Large Extent. 10.50% understand the Modern Agriculture System To Some Extent,12.00% belief Do Not Have Any Impact. 14.00% people Remain Inactive.

Globalization change economic status of the Santhals are presented in table no - 1.3. Major percentage (65.50%) of people understand their economic condition are high for the impact of globalization.3.00% people belief their economic condition are not change, 7.00% remain inactive. For globalization, the Santhal people motivate and spread of education are showing table no - 1.4. Many santhals (53.00%) people in this area, has belief globalization changed their Educational Status. And 13.50% people, not understand its, 8.00% remain inactive.

Change health status and welcome new me di- system of the Santhal society are presented table no -1.5. Major percentage (43.00%) of the santhal belief Modern Health System. 35.00% people belief traditional health system (kobiraj, ojhas).10.00% has depend on their aera's availability. 12.00% people said do not know. Changed Political view are presented table no - 1.6. major percentage (45.00) of the Santhal people are involved their traditional system. 33.00%people are interest politics of their society. 12.00% are active party members in the local ruling party, 2.50% no interest, and 8.50% are do not know in this matter.

In short, this report I have mainly highlighted The Santhal livelihood change for the impact of Globalization.

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