

A Study About Changing Trends In Rural Life In Kottaikuppam.

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Abstract

Rural society in India as well as in several developing countries have some distinct characteristics due the technological advancement in many fields including communication ,Many of these distinctive characteristics or undergoing gradual transformation. But still many of these characteristics still significantly in many rural societies, They were, Contact with nature is mainly owing to occupational requirements.Agriculture is the fundamental occupation supported by animal husbandry and allied activities .Size of the community is usually small scale .Agriculture demands a higher land to man ratio than industries. Density of the population is low and the low density brings greater intimacy among the members in the village .Homogeneity of population in rural society in terms of occupation, customs , culture etc., Social differentiation and stratification is low degree in rural society because due to their homogeneous nature . Social mobility in the rural society is very low. In rural societies there will be a low level of social interaction due to low density of population but rural masses have more primary contact. Social control is high degree in rural society strict punishments like ostracism for deviation will be followed. Social solidarity is more pronounced in rural areas .Leadership pattern in rural societies is usually traditional and based on known personal qualities of the individual or sometimes hereditary .Standard of living in rural societies is normally low.

SOCIAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL SOCIETY

Aggregation of urban and rural population may not add up to total population because of different country coverage's. India rural population for 2020 was 898,024,053, a 0.29% increase from 2019. India rural population for 2019 was 895,386,227, a 0.34% increase from 2018.Rural population (% of total population) in India was reported at 65.07 % in 2020, according to the World Bank collection of development indicators, compiled from officially recognized sources. India - Rural population - actual values, historical data, forecasts and projections were sourced from the World Bank on May of 2022.

Most of the festival are traces its origin by agriculture, example: Pongal in Tamil Nadu, Baisakhi in Punjab, Ugadi in Karnataka etc. The diversity of occupation in rural areas of India are reflection of caste system which includes specialist and service caste for example: potters, fisherman, goldsmiths. The agrarian structure of the rural society was based on caste and class where higher castes have more land and high income. According to M.N. Srinivas "dominant castes. In each region, the dominant caste is the most powerful group, economically and politically, and dominates local society. During colonial period many districts of colonial India were administered through the zamindari system. In other areas that were under direct British rule had what was called the raiyatwari system of land settlement which raiyat means cultivator in Telugu. In this system, the 'actual cultivators who were themselves often landlords and not cultivators rather than the zamindars were responsible for paying the tax because, the colonial government dealt directly with the farmers or landlords, rather than through the overlords. The burden of taxation was less and cultivators had more incentive to invest in agriculture. As a result these areas became relatively more productive and prosperous, through a series of changes starting in this period that the current structure evolved.After Independence as the government promoted modern methods of cultivation and attempted to modernized the rural economy through other strategies. The state invested in the development of rural infrastructure, such as irrigation facilities, roads, and electricity, and on the provision of agricultural inputs, including credit through banks and cooperatives. The overall outcome of these efforts at 'rural development' was not only to transform the rural economy and agriculture, but also the agrarian structure and rural society.The transformation of rural society after Independence are the increase in the use of agricultural labour because of increase in cultivation. The transformation of payment in kind or grain to payment in cash. The absence of traditional hereditary or bonds between farmers landowners and agricultural workers.

SOCIAL ORDER AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN RURAL AREAS

Rural society is small in size which is the reason for personalized relationship. The rural society tends to follow the more traditional pattern among people, for example the institutions like caste, religion, family, marriage etc. Slowly

changes in the rural social order like changes in political system by preventing zamindari system and traditional hierarchy of caste, according to M.N. srinivas as named this group as 'dominant caste'. In same way the changes in technological field of agriculture has created many changes in agricultural field like the introduction of new modern machineries and changes in new cropping pattern. Simply the technological change, economical change, changes in political system of rural society causes a major changes in rural society, changes in agricultural fields which is one of the most important change causes a sudden fluctuation in agricultural prices, which are all the reason for the changes in social order and social change in rural society.

Thomas Gordon Johnson, James K scott(1997), studies the changing nature of the rural communities and reviled the fact that the three major changes that occurred in the rural society they were in the fields of Economic, demographics and governance. The main contributor of economic change is technological change in rural societies. The technological change is dominant change in rural communities in which we can see everywhere in the rural communities. After the technological change the traditional way of production and services is changed in agricultural fields because of the technological change goods production and employment are linked by, production is increased while the employment as decreased. Migration to rural societies among old aged people, business people and retired people are causing emergence of new culture, change in communication facilities, changes in employment, new demand on public and private service and leads to economic and social conflict among people. The settlement pattern is also affecting the nature of rural communities, crime less and costless characteristics of rural communities bringing people from urban to rural societies. Changing governance and implementation of new rural developmental policies causing more changes in the rural communities.¹

ReetaSonawat(2001), according to her family is a unit of two or more person united by marriage, blood in general consulting single household, interaction and communication with each other. Role, power, status, age, gender, kinship are all the structural frame work of rural family. The alternative family patterns such as female headed families, dual earn or carrier families, single parent families, adoptive families, childless families are now observed in present rural families in India. She also says that the value of youth towards marriage is changed, the morels towards marriage is also changes and even the economic value of marriage.²

Dawn E. Turrsell, Susan M.Shaw(2009), this study analysis the social meaning of the rural life and examines how this analysis of social meaning gives structure for the women's prospective of family leisure on the farm. This study of changing family life in rural and woman's prospective of family leisure on form says that women are responsible for planning and facilitating of leisure activity in family and there is unequal power distribution is followed in the rural families, this is because there is patriarchal method is followed among rural families where the owner of the land and property is husband and later transferred to son and it is negatively affecting women participation and contribution in family and it also means that women are considered as only responsible for household and family labour in rural family.³

SedaKundak, Handan, TuzinBaycan (2011) Studies the rural change by classifying the changes into five types, they were: social natural change, natural economical change, economical physical change, physical natural change, organizational change. Firstly, social natural change; these type of change can takes place in social or natural environment of the rural society. Secondly, natural economical change. It can be also called as natural economical resilience and restructuring. These type of rural changes can occur in economic and natural environment of the rural society. Thirdly, economical physical change, these type of change occurs in rural society in the fields of economic and physical structure. Mostly these type of change takes place in rural areas which is closely located to urban areas. The causes of this type of rural change is losing of traditional physical environment and traditional economical activity. During this type of change the quality of life and the technological development is improved. Fourthly physical natural change, during this change there will be a huge change in physical environment of the rural society. This type of change mostly happens in developing countries. Improvement in the quality of life and rural infrastructure, loss of traditional system and emergence of new culture will occur during this change. Fifthly, these type of change occurs in the ecological fields of the rural society. Rural are developing very fast so, this study gives a results of different types of changes in the rural society which is going on in the world.⁴

DuvNarasimha Reddy, A.Amarender Reddy, N.Nagaraj(2014) the main objecyive of this study is to identify the emerging trend in rural employment structure and also in rural labour market in India and to give better framework for the structure. According to this study there is a rapid change in rural employment structure and there is rapid growth in

¹“The Changing Nature Of Rural Communities” journal of RePEc by Thomas Gordon Johnson , James K scott; University of Missouri, vol 40, January 1997.

²“ Understanding families in India: A reflection of societal change”, journal of psychology, volume 17, no 2, August 2001.

³ “Changing families in rural context: women's prospective of family leisure on the farm”, journal of leisure science, volume 31, issue 5, sep 8 2009.

⁴ “The rural changes: their types and effects on rural capital”. By SedaKundak, Handan, TuzinBaycan , Istanbul technological university, published by research gate, volume 49, January 2011.

non-farming sector in past two decades. According to the rural Labour Force Participation Rate there is major difference among male and female labour, that is number of female agricultural labour is lower when comparing with male in India. The number of female participation is lower when also comparing with other developing countries. The occupational change across all the social groups in rural India is slightly decreased. The participation of rural people in construction works is also increased. This study shows that there is a rapid change occurring in the fields of rural employment and labour market.⁵

Ritu Badsawal (2015), the main objective of this study is to know about the educational facilities for women, technological invention in rural society, rural population and to find out the age at marriage and the reason for early marriage in rural societies and to understand the changing pattern in women education, marriage. This study about rural women and marriage by analyzing the three major factors are education, marriage and the decision making role of women in the rural societies. After the effort from the government by implementing laws the age at marriage is now correctly following in the rural areas. Educational participation of rural women is also improved. The decision making role is changing from place to place, after the more participation of rural women in education, rural women are also taking part in decision making role.⁶

Dr. Pradeepta Kumar Samanta (2015), according to this study the development of infrastructure in both rural and urban is important for the development of nation. The development of road infrastructure in rural. According to the study the road development in rural society leads to contribute development in social and economic development such as Agriculture, health, Marketing, Education etc. The transport charge for the goods and services will be reduced and also poverty is reduced step by step. The study of effects of the rural road development shows that there is increase in development social, economic and human service indicators and makes cheaper transport facilities and increase in facilities, information flow, farming and non-farming employment in rural. This study found there is increase Agricultural investment, fertilizer usage, expansion of commercial banks in rural.⁷

Saurabh Arora, Bulat Sanditov (2015), according to the author the culture of caste is deeply rooted in villages of south India. By this study they observed that community pattern, living pattern and collection of headman is for some extent based on the culture of caste in the rural south India which are considered as the causes of inequality and barrier for the development.⁸

Pawel Chmielinski, Barbara Chmielewska (2015), this study focuses on the social change and in addition with income and expenditure of rural households which is different way of looking into the rural society where the other researches focusing only on rural agricultural structure, rural infrastructure, changing trends in rural employment, family, marriage. This is completely a different way of analyzing the rural changing trends. According to authors the income paid for employment and income for self-employment in both urban and rural is slightly increased. The income for the individual farmers in agriculture is decreased.⁹

Diane Coffey, Aashish Gupta, Payal Hathi, Dean Spears, Nikhil Srivastav, Sangita Vyas (2017), The main objective of this study is to understand the open defecation among rural areas in India where the open defecation is much higher when comparing with other developing countries, literacy rate is lower and water is much scarce. They analyzed villages in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat by qualitative survey of 3,200 household. They Beliefs, values, norms about purity, pollution, caste, untouchables which are all the causes for open defecation and reason for not affording latrine, people considering that having latrine is ritually impure and polluting.¹⁰

Madhusudan Ghosh (2017), according to this study the infrastructural development in the rural societies is very essential for developing countries like India to achieve the economic development. According to this study the status of well developed rural infrastructure is achieved by progressing road, housing, power, sanitation, communication. As a

⁵“Emerging trends in rural employment structure and rural labour market in India”. Published by ICRISAT Research Program Market, Institute and Policies, vol 37, no 56, By Duv Narasimareddy, university of Hyderabad, A. Amarenderreddy, Indian Council of Agricultural Research. N. Nagaraj, Institute for social and economic change, January 2014.

⁶“Rural women and marriage”. Journal of sociology and criminology, vol 3, issue 2 By Ritu Badsawal, Indira Gandhi National open university 2015.

⁷“Development of rural roads Infrastructure in India”, journal of Pacific Business Review, vol 7, issue 11, May 2015.

⁸“Culture of caste and Rural development in the social network of south Indian villages” journal of SAGE, by Saurabh Arora, Bulat Sanditov, vol 10, issue 4, August 13, 2015.

⁹“Social change in rural areas: Income and expenditure of rural household” journal of economics of agriculture, vol 62, January 2015.

¹⁰“Understanding open defecation of rural India” journal of Economic and Political weekly, vol 52, issue 1, 07 January 2017.

result of this study the infrastructure facilities are inadequate and are mostly unsatisfied by after evaluating the infrastructure facilities in 16 major states of India.¹¹

SoumyaManjumath, ElumAlaikannan(2015), The main objective of this is to know about the effects of rural infrastructure development, agricultural , employment after the development of rural infrastructure in district level analysis of Karnataka by examining the statistics various sectors such as agriculture, technology, agricultural land productivity, machinery, effects of rural infrastructure on land productivity, effects of over all infrastructural index on land productivity.¹²

Surinder S. Jodhka(2018), This study says that 85% of the Indian population lived in the rural areas of India after the Independence and after six decades only 60% of the population living in the rural, there are major changes occurred in the face of rural India such as infrastructural change, technological changes, changes in social institutions, urbanization, changes in rural administration these changes are identified by analyzing the dynamics of rural social change.¹³

Prof. PashmeenaVikranjitGhom(2018), the main objective of this study is to know the emerging trends and to make benefit by developing the villages as smart villages by planning villages. According to this study growing population and rapid urbanization are the major problem in India. The quality of life in both urban and rural must be maintained balanced with each other but still the some villages in India are still lagging in Infrastructural and technological facilities. People in the rural still facing difficulties in livelihood so, people in rural migrating to urban. According to the censuses of 2011, 68.9% population living in the village. In order to make the quality of life in balanced among rural and urban the need for planning smart villages is much important ,hence village is the heart of the nation.¹⁴

KoustabMajumdar(2020), this study says about the rural transformation which means analyzing the modernization, changes in structure of the rural economy, development and moving of people from farming to non-farming sectors. The main objective of this study to examine the nature and the changes in rural India, rural transformation, structural transformation and agrarian changes among the rural societies in India. There are many theories were applied in this study. The analysis says that the de-agrarianization of rural economy and rural transformation involves migration of people from farming to non-farming sectors are occurred in rural society.¹⁵

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

There is significant difference in social and economic aspect in rural societies, when comparing with the urban, where the rural societies facing lack in health care, more illiteracy rate, lack of infrastructure development etc. The price the farmers get for their produces is less in relation to the work they put in. Although the rural economic distress does not affect all farmers equally but the lower and middle-class farmers who are in a majority are forced to send their sons and brothers to the urban areas to find new sources of livelihood. In cities, they are forced to remain in slums and work as daily wage-earners due to the lack of education and proper training. The other rural problems are due to the fact that since the rural people do not live in concentrated masses, the availability of specialized services to them is minimal. This is true for medical, market, banking, transport, communication, education, recreation, and many other services necessary for modern living. Thus, in a general way, people in the rural areas are at a great disadvantage and have to suffer many social problems.

SIGNIFICANT OF STUDY

There is significant changes happened in rural socio-economic status like occupation, Income, Family and Marriage system, Democratic status, Agriculture, Medical care, Infrastructure. It is very important to know about rural changing trends which helps us to know about how the rural society is developed and changed from its nature.

OBJECTIVES:

- To know the socio-economic conditions of the respondents.
- To bring out the changes in respondents life.

¹¹“ Infrastructure and Development in Rural India”. Margin A journal of applied economic research, vol 11, issue 3, 28 August 2017.

¹² “Effects of rural Infrastructural on Agricultural development”: A district level Analysis in Karnataka, India. Journal of Infrastructure development, vol 9, issue 2, 2015.

¹³ “Changing faces of rural” journal economic and political weekly, vol 49, no 14, 2018.

¹⁴ “ Emerging trends in rural development: planning for smart villages”. By Prof.PashmeenaVikranjitGhom, Indian institute of Technology Kharagpur(IIT KGP) Department of architecture and regional Planning, Nov 2018.

¹⁵“Rural transformation in India: De-agrarianization and transition from a farming and non-farming”. Journal of developing societies, vol 36, issue 2, April 9 2020.

RESEARCH DESIGN

Design is the plan of action that helps to guide the research in the correct way. There are four types of research design which are used in social research. In that researchers had selected descriptive research design for this study which would be more appropriate for the present study.

AREA OF STUDY:

This study is conducted in villages of Kottaikuppam, Nelvoi, Mettupalayam, Angaimedu which are belongs to Kottaikuppampanchayat to know the important practices and changes in life.

SELECTION OF SAMPLE:

The researchers selected 50 respondents with the age of above 50 years for data collection. For this study researchers selected the sample through SIMPLE RANDOM METHOD.

COLLECTION OF DATA

PRIMARY DATA:

Primary data are collected from the respondents by personal interview by using interview schedule. Observation also used to get supplementary information.

SECONDARY DATA:

Secondary data for this present study are collected from published sources like journals, books, websites, reports etc.

PRE-TEST:

The researchers conducted pre-test to 5 respondents to make sure that the arrangements and order of interview schedule are correct which is useful to make the interview schedule towards the objectives.

TOOL FOR DATA COLLECTION:

Interview schedule is used as tool for data collection.

DATA PROCESSING:

After the data collection the interview schedules were checked and edited , then the master chart was prepared which helps for making tables and through statistical inference the data was interpreted.

DURATION OF THE STUDY;

The study period for this research was from December(2020) to February(2021).

LIMITATIONS:

The study has following limitations

The sample size is very small.

The duration of the study is limited.

FINDINGS:

The Researcher had conducted a study entitled “A Study about Changing Trends in Rural Life In kottaikuppam”. The major findings are majority of the respondents (66 percent) are male and remaining 34 percent of the respondents are female. The two-third of the respondents are male and more than one-third of the respondents are female. More than half of the respondents(56percent) are belongs to the age of 50-55 years. Few of the respondents(18 percent) are belongs to age 55-60 years and 60-65 years. Only very few of the respondents(8 percent) are belongs to the age of above 65. More than half of the respondents (54 percent)are studied up to middle school level. One-fifth of the respondents(20) are illiterate. Few respondents are studied up to primary school level 14 percent and SSLC 10 percent. Only one respondent(2 percent) is completed under graduation.

Family and Economic Profile

Close to two-third of the respondents(64 percent) occupation is agriculture. Few of the respondents(12 percent) are housewives. Close to one-fourthof them (24 percent) works as Mechanic, security, bus driver, worker in rice mill, engineer andconstructionlabour. More than half of the respondents(58 percent) are earning Rs.2000-3000. Few of the respondents(14 percent) are earning Rs.4000-5000. Few of the respondents(12percent) are earning above Rs.5000. Almost all the respondent(98 percent) are Hindus and only one respondent (2 percent) is Christian. More than one-third of the respondents(26 percent) are belongs to MBC and More than three-fifth of the respondents(62 percent) belongs to SC and few respondents(12 percent) belongs to OC. Close to four-fifth of the respondents(78 percent) are living in nuclear family and close to one-fourth of the respondents (22 percent) are living in joint family. It indicates that nuclear family is majority among the respondents.

Living area

Close to one-fifth of the respondents(18 percent) are living between 20-40 years in the village. Three-fifth of the respondents(60 percent) are living between 40-60 years in the village. Few of the respondents (16 percent) are living between 60-70 years in the village. Very few of the respondents(6 percent) are living more than 70 years in the village. Two-fifth of the respondents(44 percent) native is Kottaikuppam. Few respondents(14 percent) native is Nelvoi and Mettupalayam(10 percent). Close to one-third of the respondents(30 percent) are from Anjaimedu. Only one respondent(2 percent) native is Thiruvanamalai. Two-fifth of the respondents(40 percent) said that reason for living in that village is native place and few respondents(16 percent) reason is occupation. More than one-fifth of the respondents(26 percent) reason is both native and occupation. Few respondents(18 percent) reason is marriage. More than two-fourth of the respondents (42 percent) mostly spent on agricultural works and few of the respondents (12 percent) spent in household works. A similar proportion of the respondents (12 percent) engaged in agricultural and household works. Other respondents (34 percent) spent on gardening, office works, mechanic works and construction works.

Village Festival

Close to three-fourth of the respondents (72 percent) having unique festival in their village and more than one-fourth of the respondents (28 percent) are not having any unique festival in their village. More than one-fourth of the respondents(28 percent) are not celebrating and participating in the festival. 30 percent of the respondent are not celebrating due to Covid-19 and few of the respondents(20 percent) are not celebrating due to lack of interest and less than one-fourth of the respondents(22 percent) are celebrating the unique festival without any changes.

Houses

One-third of the respondents(32 percent) said that 30-50 houses were present in their village before 20 years and now it is increased into 60-80 houses. More than one-fourth of the respondents(26 percent) said that there are 30-40 houses were present in their village before 20 years and now it is increased into 50-60 houses. More than one-fourth of the respondents(28 percent) said that there were 40-50 houses present in their village before 20 years and now it is increased into 80-100 houses. Few of the respondents(20 percent) said that 40-60 houses and 50-60 houses in their village respectively and now it was changed into 80-100 houses and above 150 houses at present.

Toilet Facility

More than two-fifth of the respondents (42 percent) have open defecation still now. Close to three-fifth of the respondents(58 percent) have less level of open defecation because toilet facilities are available at every houses and some people are not using toilet facilities properly. Majority of the respondents(80 percent) said that there was no toilet facilities in the past in their village. One - fifth of the respondents(20 percent) have said that toilet facilities are available in the past.

Medical Treatment

Close to two-third of the respondents (64 percent) said that local doctor is present in the village and above one-third of the respondents(36 percent) said there is no local doctor present in the village. More than one-third of the respondents(34 percent) are taking medical treatment at town and city and few of the respondents(16 percent) are taking medical treatment at village and town. Few of the respondents(14 percent) are taking medical treatment at outside the village and (20 percent) few of the respondent for small health care in village and for major problem in city for medical treatment and very few of the respondent(4 percent) only taking medical treatment in village only. Few of the respondents (12 percent) are taking medical treatment from both local doctor and doctors in city.

Age at Marriage

More than three-fifth of the respondents(62 percent) said that age at marriage in their village in the past, was 17-20 years for female and 22-25 years for male. But now it was changed into 19-22 years for female; for male 24-28 years. Almost two-fifth of the respondents(38 percent) said that age at marriage in their village at past was 16-20 years for female and 22-25 years for male and now it was changed into 20-23 years for female and for male 23-26 years.

Marriage

Half of the respondents(50 percent) said marriage pattern in the past is traditional and marriage will take place in temple and home. Nearly one-fourth of the respondents(24 percent) said inter-caste marriages are not allowed at past and few of the respondents(18 percent) marriages are based on caste norms. More than half of the respondents(54 percent) said marriage pattern at present changed from traditional and close to two-fifth of the respondents(38 percent) said inter-caste marriage are allowed now. Very few of the respondents(8 percent) said now a days marriages will happen in wedding hall only.

Religious Belief

Less than one-fourth of the respondent(22 percent) belief in superstitious. Close to four-fifth of the respondent(78 percent) have no superstitious belief. Above half of the respondents(56 percent) having rituals in village and more than

two-fifth of the respondents(44 percent) are not having rituals in village. More than half of the respondent(56 percent) are following ritual practices from generation to generation. On the other hand, 44 percent of them didn't follow ritual practices from the past one generation only.

Changes in Agriculture

Close to four-fifth of the respondents(78 percent) depending on man force only for basic works in agricultural field and less than one-fourth of the respondents(22 percent) are depending man force for seeding, removing of unwanted plants in agricultural fields and other basic works. Above half of the respondents(54 percent) are depending on machineries for agriculture and above two-fifth of the respondents(42 percent) field majority of the works are done by machineries and few of the respondents(2 percent) hard works and important works are done by modern machineries.

Very few of the respondents(6 percent) are using organic method for agriculture. Overwhelming majority of the respondents are not using organic method for agriculture. More than one-third of the respondents(34 percent) are getting dairy products from farm and few of the respondents(20 percent) are getting dairy products from shop. More than two-fifth of the respondents(46 percent) are getting dairy products from both farm and shop. More than one-fourth of the respondents(28 percent) said that there is changes in cropping pattern. Close to three-fourth of the respondents(72 percent) said that there is no changes in cropping pattern.

Food pattern

Majority of the respondents(84 percent) said that there was changes occurred in Panchayat election, changes includes people from any community can participate in election and very few of the respondents(16 percent) said there is no changes in panchayat election. Close to three-fourth of the respondents(70 percent) are getting grocery products from shop and close to one-third of the respondents(30 percent) are getting grocery products from town. More than half of the respondents(52 percent) traditional food pattern is changed, the changes includes consuming millet, pearl millet, finger millet and other traditional food are partially stopped and children are drinking boost, Horlicks and other health drink from pure milk and packed milk is often used. Close to half of the respondents(48 percent) are consuming fast food, thus the traditional food pattern is changed.

CONCLUSION:

In India majority of the population lives in rural. After the Globalization, Modernization and Technological development major changes took place all over the World. The whole world is considered as Global village, similarly rural India also witnessed change in the structure and function of rural society. By this study, it was helpful to come to conclusion that regarding changing trends in rural society. This study shows that rural society are changed its most of its nature like changes in pattern of marriage and in traditional food habits, in traditional structure, infrastructure and in traditional method of agriculture. Thus this change is unstoppable it will keep changing in both social structure and function.

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