



YANADI TRIBE: TRIBES IN NEWS

NEWS: Children Restored: Three children from the Yanadi tribe, who had run away, were traced and successfully reunited with their family.

Overview of the Yanadi Tribe

- **Location:** The Yanadi tribe primarily resides in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in the Nellore district.
- **Status:** Recognized as one of the scheduled tribes of India, the Yanadis are among the most vulnerable tribal groups due to their challenging socio-economic circumstances.

Socio-Economic Conditions

- **Extreme Poverty:** The Yanadi tribe endures severe poverty, resulting in limited access to essential resources and social exclusion.
- **Population Size:** According to the 2001 census, the Yanadi population in Andhra Pradesh was around 462,167, indicating a significant presence within the state.
- **Language:** Their native language is Telugu, aligning them linguistically with the majority population in Andhra Pradesh.

Cultural and Occupational Practices

- **Traditional Occupations:**
 - **Hunting and Gathering:** Traditionally, the Yanadis relied on hunting and gathering for sustenance.
 - **Agriculture:** Many Yanadis engage in small-scale farming, though primarily for subsistence rather than commercial gain.
- **Health Knowledge:**
 - **Traditional Medicine:** The tribe has an extensive knowledge of medicinal plants and uses these to treat various ailments, including gastrointestinal issues, respiratory problems, skin conditions, and reproductive health concerns.
 - **Local Healers:** Yanadi healers are respected for their knowledge of herbal medicine and are often sought by the community for natural treatments.


Cultural Identity and Spiritual Connection

- **Spiritual Connection to Nature:** The Yanadis have a profound spiritual bond with the forest, which is central to their cultural and religious practices.
- **Festivals and Celebrations:** They celebrate several festivals related to the forest and its flora, expressing gratitude and reverence for nature.



- **Traditional Dance:** Dance forms a vital part of their cultural expression, performed during festivals and gatherings to honor their heritage and strengthen communal ties.


THE DEPRIVED LOT



Problems facing Yanadi tribes


- Poverty
- Malnutrition
- Unemployment
- Illiteracy

Places where they are largely present

 Kovur, Gudur
Sullurupeta

The yanadi tribals remain landless and homeless over the decades

ON THE RISE

 • More than **8 lakh** Yanadi tribals are living in Andhra Pradesh

• Every district has a population of more than **50,000** Yanadi tribals

Other tribal communities in the State

- Chenchus • Koyas • Kondas • Yerukalas

Additional Insights on the Yanadi Tribe

- **Housing and Lifestyle:** Many Yanadi people live in traditional thatched huts within close-knit communities, often located near forested areas.
- **Role of Women:** Yanadi women play an essential role in preserving traditional knowledge and are often the primary custodians of herbal medicinal practices.
- **Challenges with Modernization:** Rapid urbanization and deforestation have increasingly threatened the Yanadi way of life, with many losing access to their traditional lands and resources.
- **Educational Access:** Education levels remain low within the tribe, and many Yanadi children face barriers to attending school regularly, contributing to limited literacy rates in the community.



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Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/three-runaway-yanadi-tribe-children-traced-restored-to-family/article68826314.ece>



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