### 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**

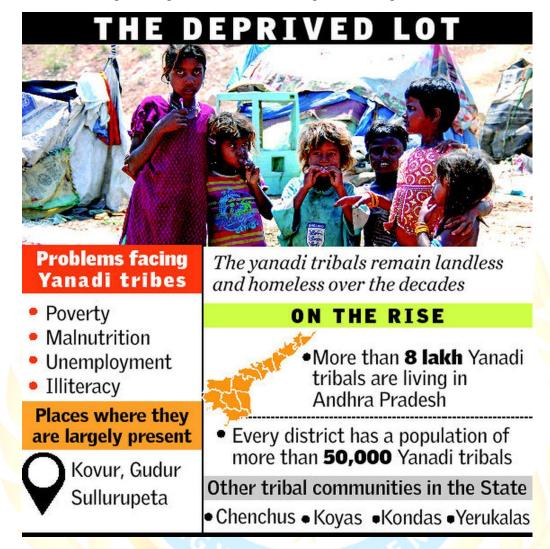
- **Spiritual Connection to Nature**: The Yanadis have a profound spiritual bond with the forest, which is central to their cultural and religious practices.
- **Festivals and Celebrations**: They celebrate several festivals related to the forest and its flora, expressing gratitude and reverence for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



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



## Additional Insights on the Yanadi Tribe

- Housing and Lifestyle: Many Yanadi people live in traditional thatched huts within closeknit 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:** <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/three-runaway-yanadi-tribe-">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/three-runaway-yanadi-tribe-</a> children-traced-restored-to-family/article68826314.ece

