

A Study on Women Folk artist in Contemporary society

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Abstract

Women folk artist is the one who forwards the traditional arts to the next generation and entertains the masses with their talents. Women folk artist plays a vital role in every folk art. No folk art would succeed without the role of women. As they are exploited physically and mentally, troubles from audience still they need to lead their life to sustain in this field. **Objectives:**

The present studies focus on the problems of women folk artists. **Methods:** the study followed descriptive research design conducted in the Tirunelveli district of Tamilnadu. 40 women artist were selected through purposive sampling method. **Findings:** women are facing physical problems like uterus problem, sprained knee, and kidney failure etc due to prolong dancing programmes. Economic problems like rejection of loans, insecurity in jobs etc. Psychological and sexual problems are predominant issues. The suggestion include more research should be needed to explore on their issues and also women folk artist should get satisfactory recognition from the society.

Key words: Traditional Art-Physical problem-Economic Problem-Psychological Problem

Introduction

Human are the wonderful work of god's creation, women is the masterpiece of his work. Women are the eyes of nation. No field goes untouched by the women. Women are showing excellent performance in all the fields. But women are facing hardships day to day. To be specific women are facing more problems in arts field rather than other field. Our government has provided many schemes and laws as a shield for women; still, they are facing many challenges and problems. The problems are either from the people or from the society as a whole. It is either direct or indirect.

In detail a woman is more bothered by another woman is the highly humiliating factor. Women are the embodiment of purity and forbearance. The talent and the act of folk artist are unseen and their costumes and appearance are noticed. The plea of the heart and their difficult situation were remained un empathized. Every one of us should understand the women folk artist and respect her for her talent and skills. Folk art is as old as human age. Folk arts are the tradition and custom of our nation. But this folk art is in the edge of extinction is the rot able despairing element. The reason behind this is we become people of instant pleasure and the traditions are being disremembered.

Objectives of the Study

- To study the socio economic condition of women artists
- To explore the psycho-social problems of folklore artists

Methodology

The study followed with descriptive research design and total of 40 families are selected using convenient sampling method. The folklore artists are lived as a community. Nearly sixty families are residing in Alangulam Taluk and Town of Tirunelveli district of Tamilnadu. In-depth interview schedule was prepared for collecting data. It provides the detailed background about the respondent's socio economic conditions, facing problems of physical, psychological and social problems of folklore artists.

Table 1

Personal Profile of the Respondents						Total (%)
<i>Age</i>	15-25	26-35	36-45	46-55		100
	20%	42.5%	20%	17.5%		
<i>Sex</i>	Male	Female				100
	40	60				
<i>Religion</i>	Hindu	Christian				100
	97.5	2.5				
<i>Community</i>	Backward	SC/ST				100
	35	65				
<i>Place</i>	Village	City				100
	65	35				
<i>Type of Family</i>	Joint Family	Nuclear Family				100
	72.5	27.5				

Age: 42.5% of respondents belong to the age group of 26-35. The 20% of respondents are 15-25 and 36-45 age group. The remaining 17.5% of respondents are in the age group of 46-55.

Sex: 60% of respondents are female and the remaining 40% of respondents are male.

Religion: 97.5% of respondents are Hindu and the remaining 2.5% of respondents are Christian.

Community: 65% of respondents are SC/ST and the remaining 35% of respondents are backward caste.

Place: 65% of families residing in rural area and 35% of them are residing in urban

Type of Family: 72.5% of respondents are belongs to Joint Family and 27.5% of the respondents are Nuclear Family.

Table -2

Economic condition of the respondents						Total (%)
Type of House	Own	Rent	Lease			100%
	70%	5%	25%			
Annual Income	Less than 100000	100000-500000	500000-1000000			100%
	47.5%	30%	22.5%			
Parent Occupation	Folk lore	Coolie	Auto Driver	Sales Man		100%
	70%	15%	12.5%	2.5%		
Spouse Education	Illiterate	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Degree	100%
	10%	12.5%	42.5%	25%	10%	
Spouse Occupation	Unemployed	Folk lore	Driver			100%
	17.5%	50%	32.5%			

Type of House: 70% of respondents has own house. 25% of respondents are living in Rent house and the remaining 5% of respondents are living in lease house.

Annual Income: 47.5% of respondents are getting less than Rs.1,00,000 annual income and 30% of respondents are getting Rs.1,00,000 to Rs. 2,00,000. The remaining 22.5% of respondents have the annual income of Rs. 5 lakhs to 10 lakhs..

Parent Occupation: 70% of the respondent’s parents are Folk lore. 15% of the respondent’s parents are coolie. 12.5% of respondent’s parents are Auto Driver. The remaining a few percentage of respondent’s parents are worked in sales man.

Spouse Education: 42.5% of the respondent’s partners are completed to Secondary education. 25% of the respondent’s partners are studied up to Higher studies. 12.5% of respondent’s partner completed their primary level education. 10% are illiteracy and degree standard.

Spouse Occupation: 50% of the respondent’s partner worked as coolie. 32.5% of respondent’s partner worked as Driver. The remaining a few respondent’s partner are unemployed person.

Table-3

Work related issues				Total%
Habits of Drinking Alcohol	Yes	No		100%
	27.5%	72.5%		
If yes, when	Program Time	Daily	No	100%
	12.5%	15%	72.5%	
	0%	100%		
Program Time	3-4 hours	4-6 hours	6-8 hours	100%
	55%	37.5%	12.5%	
Program Days	Particular Days	Throughout the year		100%
	17.5%	82.5%		
If particular days, any other alternative works	Auto	Finance Business	No work	100%
	92.5%	5%	2.5%	
	0%	100%		

Drinking Alcohol: 37.5% of male respondents have drinking habits. Among them 15% of respondents are daily drunken and the remaining 12.5% of respondents accepted that they drink during their programmes.

Program Time: 55% of the respondents can perform their arts up to 3 to 4 hours, 37.5% of the respondents perform their programme up to 4 to 6 hours. The remaining 12.5% of the respondents can perform their programme up to 6 to 8 hours.

Program Days: 72.5% of respondents get programme orders throughout the year. 27.5% of the respondents get programme orders at particular days. During this period, respondents go for alternative jobs like auto Driver, Finance business. Few respondents are jobless.

Table-4

Problems of the Respondents						Total (%)
Social Problems	Yes	No				100%
	97.5%	2.5%				
If Yes, what kind of	lacking of protection	Travel insecurity	Difficult to satisfy Basic needs	Miss behaviour by others	Conflicts during programmes	100%
	2.5%	20%	42.5%	32.5%	2.5%	
Psychological Problem	Yes	No				
	92.5%	7.5%				
If you yes, what kind of issues	Programme without Break	Conflicts among the groups	Not getting correct money	illtreat	No Issues	100%
	35%	30%	17.5%	10%	7.5%	
Sexual Problem	Yes	No				100%
	85%	15%				
If yes, what kind of	Unwanted behaviour	No				100%
	85%	15%				
Contemporary Issues	Yes	No				100%
	95%	5%				
If yes, how did issue	Money	Job insecurity	Unwanted Speech	Govt. Rules	No	100
	32.5	30	25	7.5	5	

Social Problem: 97.5% of respondents faced social problems during their programmes. 42.5% of respondents are difficult to satisfy their basic needs like food, toilet facilities, sanitation, etc. 32.5% of respondents are ill-treated by the public like gossiping, kidding etc. 20% of respondent feel that they need to travel insecurity. 2.5% of respondents faced unnecessary communal fight or issues during program time.

Psychological Problem: 92.5% of respondent faced Psychological issues. 35 % of respondents frustrated due to continuous programme without break up to more than 6 hours. 17.5% respondents don't get proper remuneration for their folk art. 10% of respondents feel that public never recognize as folk art rather than glamour.

Sexual Issues: 85% of the respondents accepted that they have congregated with sexual harassment, tortures, sexual propose during the programmes. Women are treating as sexual objects in this art.

Contemporary Issues: 32.5% of the respondent agreed that they can't get proper income. Banks deny loans for their profession. 30% of the respondents feel job insecurity. 25% of the respondent faced to verbal violence (Unwanted speech) during the programmes and 7.5 % of the respondents affected with the government rules.

Conclusion

Women play a major role in this profession but they face many challenges in their occupation. They abuse with physically, psychologically and sexually. They countenance with physical problems like uterus, sprained knee, and kidney problems etc due to prolong dancing programmes. Economic problems like rejection of loans, insecurity in jobs etc. Women continue to be harassed and bullied. No women have chosen folk art as their deep heart liking profession. The suggestions include more research should be needed to explore on their issues and also women folk artist should get satisfactory recognition from the society.

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