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Development and Change among Sugalis: An Ethnographic Evidence from a NGO Based Village

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Abstract

The notion of 'Development' has many connotations in the contemporary globalised societies. Development can be seen in two way process. It is like a double edged sword and we must handled with care. Development has both positive and negative implications on society and people. Liberalisation and Globalisation of the economy affected majority of the nations in the world, particularly India. People who have improved means of lives and livelihoods, improved quality of life and better access to assets and services, etc., are considered as positive impact of development. People who do not have a square meal a day and who face the scarcity of resources and opportunities imply the negative effect. For instance, farmers' suicides in Andhra Pradesh, where Governments, both at the centre and in the States, have failed to take suitable measures to control the menace.

With the above backdrop, the present paper is an outcome of an ethnographic study of an NGO based village, Adadakulapalle, in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh, India. The paper tries to look at Sugalis, a Scheduled Tribe, whose traditional occupation is Pastoralism and whose lives are affected due to the frequent failures of crops in the NGO undertaken village. It also looks at the type of change they have experienced with the implementation of different schemes by both government and NGO. Further this paper also tries to analyse the implications of these on the community. In summary, it analyses how culture played a significant role in the lives and livelihoods of the pastoral community, Sugalis.

Key Words: Development, Change, Sugalis, Ethnography, Pastoralists and NGO.

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