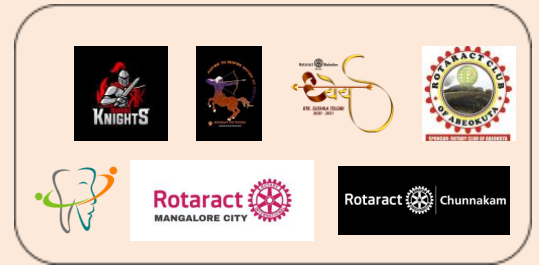


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**Rotaract**



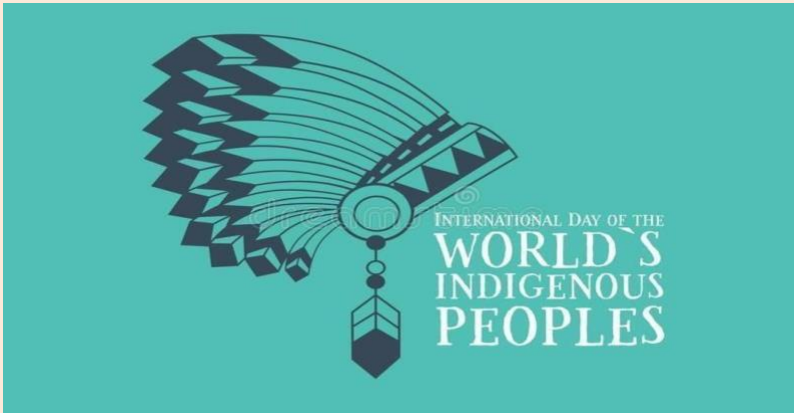
Club of  
S.I.E.S (Nerul) College of  
Arts, Science and Commerce  
Rotary Club Of New Bombay Seaside



# PRIMITIVE TALES...

(International day of World's  
Indigenous Peoples')





Indigenous peoples', also known in some regions as First peoples', First Nations, Aboriginal peoples' or Native peoples' or autochthonous peoples', are ethnic groups who are the original or earliest known inhabitants of an area, in contrast to groups that have settled, occupied or colonized the area more recently. Groups are usually described as indigenous when they maintain traditions or other aspects of an early culture that is associated with a given region.

Not all indigenous peoples' share this characteristic, as many have adopted substantial elements of a colonizing culture, such as dress, religion or language. Indigenous peoples' may be settled in a given region (sedentary) or exhibit a nomadic lifestyle across a large territory, but they are generally historically associated with a specific territory on which they depend. Indigenous societies are found in every inhabited climate zone and continent of the world except Antarctica.

## .COVID-19 and Indigenous peoples' resilience

While the exact origins of COVID-19 have not yet been confirmed, the link between environmental damage and pandemics is well known to leading research organizations. But there is yet another group of experts, who have worried about the threat of a pandemic even before COVID-19: indigenous peoples'. Thanks to their traditional knowledge and their relationship with the natural world, they have long known that the degradation of the environment has the potential to unleash disease. As we fight against the spread of the pandemic, it is more important than ever to safeguard indigenous peoples' and their knowledge. Their territories are home to 80% of the world's biodiversity and they can teach us much about how to rebalance our relationship with nature and reduce the risk of future pandemics. Indigenous peoples' are seeking their own solutions to this pandemic. They are taking action and using traditional knowledge and practices such as voluntary isolation .

## ***Indigenous Peoples' around the world***

The Mundas are one of the aboriginal peoples found in the Chota Nagpur region of eastern India. They are found in the northern areas of east India concentrated in the states of Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal. The Munda also reside in adjacent areas of Chhattisgarh and Arunachal Pradesh as well as in portions of Bangladesh. They are one of India's largest scheduled tribes.

During Covid19 pandemic-induced lockdown has forced tribal migrants working in various parts of the country to return to their blocks and villages.

The deadly coronavirus may not have caused havoc in these far-flung pockets, but mitigation measures, including shutdown and restrictions on movement, have hit them hard. Mundas earn their livelihood through agricultural occupation though they are not able to earn too much during the pandemic, the tribes seem to have a positive attitude and are fully aware of the global menace and are enforcing social distancing norms as well as barricading entry points to keep the outsiders away, the community is well aware about COVID-19 precautions, they are following practices like frequent hand washing and wearing masks correctly.

The tribes have shown their positive approach by remaining calm throughout the pandemic by following all the instructions given by the government.

They are also trying their best for cultivation of grains, that helps other people to live their livelihood, though they themselves are not getting much benefit.

Sourcelink: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2020/may/18/interview-will-create-jobs-for-tribals-says-union-minister-arjun-munda-2144721.html>



## KOTA

Kotas are an ethnic group who are indigenous and oldest community to the Nilgiris mountain range in Tamil Nadu, India. Kotas were mainly blacksmiths, making an array of implements including big cooking vessels and still they believe that God created iron for Kotas only. Though very industrious and energetic, Kotas were described as untouchable by others. Nilgiri communities and they were at the bottom of the ritual hierarchy, presumed to be due to

their mode of living. They were in the habit of eating not merely flesh, but even carrion, trading in hides, playing music at funerals of other communities, where each one of these is considered as impure and therefore ritually defiling occupation in the Nilgiris and Hindu India at large .But today Kotas are almost in a state of forgetting this traditional profession as it is found non-profitable and attracted by urban way of living.

This covid 19 pandemic has flipped everyone's life. These tribal people are vulnerable. These people are surviving with their animal husbandry and income that comes through. The income that they gain is

minimal. Due to this covid 19 people fear to buy products. They have been sharing with what they have grown. Their togetherness teaches us "UNITED WE STAND DIVIDED WE FALL". Any disaster, havoc, chaos we can overcome with our unity. When the leader of the community spoke, he mentioned "Though our community is very small in number, we cannot say dialect is endangered. It had been surviving throughout our ancestor's time and it will until nigiri exist"

This word gives us strength and positivity. We thought they were starving for a meal in a day, still the hope they have. makes us astonish. So all we have got to do is spread positivity, hope, believe that "Nothing is permanent". and "this too shall pass" Kotas are an ethnic group who are indigenous and oldest community to the Nilgiris mountain range in Tamil Nadu,India. Kotas were mainly blacksmiths, making an array of implements including big cooking vessels and still they believe that God created iron for Kotas only.Though very industrious and energetic, Kotas were described as untouchable by other Nilgiri communities and they were at the bottom of the ritual hierarchy, presumed to be due to their mode of living. They were in the habit of eating not merely flesh, but even carrion, trading in hides, playing music at funerals of other communities, where each one of these is considered as impure and therefore ritually defiling occupation in the Nilgiris and Hindu India at large .But today Kotas are almost in a state of forgetting this traditional profession as it is found non-profitable and attracted by urban way of living.

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## Kunbis



Goa has long played an important part in the history of India. In spite of being the smallest state in the country, it has a rich history, heritage, and culture. It's also important to know that being the smallest state, Goa has a tribal community. It's amazing how in these modern times, these tribes have still managed to retain their ancient and indigenous ways of life and traditional practices, customs, and way of living. Of course, a lot of people from these tribes have moved on to what they probably consider a better life, too. Goa has 4 main tribal communities, The Gowdas, Kunbis, Velips, and Dhangars. Most people would have heard about the former 2 than the latter. So here we are highlighting probably the most famous of the tribes living in Goa which is Kunbis. They are a sturdy tribal community mostly settled in Salcete Taluka, who were Hindus, and have still retained the most ancient folk tradition of the land. Belonging to the agricultural class, they are perceived as mild mannered and industrious people. They live together, clustered into several hamlets, known as 'kutumba', however today they are categorized as Other Backward Class (OBC) . The



Kunbis are also believed to be among the earliest inhabitants in our fair state. They are known to be simple, hardworking folk. They tend to lush green fields and live in small mud huts with bamboo roofs adorned with coconut palm leaves or straws. Kunbis are a prime example of a community living in harmony. These tribals live in little hamlets known as 'kutumba', from the Sanskrit word 'kutumbakam' which means a family. Kunbis have a rich tradition of art and culture to which they attach particular importance. Their songs and dances are melodious, fluid and an explosion of color. The Kunbi folk dance is distinctive to the tribe and is quite famous in Goa. as it is known to portray social themes The festival of

Shigmotsav, held in February-March is the best way to showcase their talents. Kunbis used to practice Hinduism but were converted to Christianity by the Portuguese. Kunbis are arguably the earliest settlers of Goa... AS Kunbi, one of the oldest communities of Goa, are further divided into Velips and Zalmis. As this red checked sari was predominantly worn by these tribes, the fabric came to be named after them. that some of the local women wear. The simple garment that has changed with the times is one of the few actual reminders of the tribes that lived in the hills around Goa.. Now Any folk dance of Goa, be it Dhalo or the Fugdi is incomplete without the red checkered cotton sari which is commonly known as a Kunbi sari or the Adivasi sari. This six-yard sari, locally referred to as the Kapad which was predominantly worn by women belonging to the tribal communities of Goa, has no pallu or drape. It is simply pleated at the waist and what would normally be the pallu is drawn across the chest and back over the right shoulder to form a knot locally called a dethali. Traditionally, no blouse was worn with this sari.

The pandemic is severely affecting indigenous peoples while it also highlights conditions of social and economic marginalization that amplify the impacts on them as compared to the general population. There is much we can learn from tribal people too in this pandemic situation too. As this community is small and restricted in area they made self-rule when they got aware about the situation.

They started restricting the anyone who has come from outside, can't mix directly with those in the local area until they've served a period of quarantine. They have to isolate themselves from the group they want to visit (constructing temporary houses at a safe distance) until enough time has elapsed for it to be safe. Tribal people are experts in their environments, so in the lockdown period they cultivated their own vegetables and luckily our government made every possible way to help the People. So these people are too considered and people help those donating grains and other necessary products.



## KODAVA



Indigenous people are generally also known as first peoples or even autochthonous people who are inhabitants of an area. Our focus is on a tribe named Kodava tribe found in Coorg , Karnataka. They help to map and monitor ecological changes and improve scientific knowledge even in Covid situations. It'll always be that the oldest people will be indigenous people and the newest people likewise. They are the grassroots of any civilization. They are unique as well as local utilitarians. Indigenous knowledge of Kodavas can be absolutely essential for understanding the cumulative impacts of the environment ecologically and is also used to manage resources to pass between generations so even in this pandemic situation they are quite helpful . Kodavas are evidence of knowledge. Partnering with kodavas will help in cultural and natural systems which affect the diverse indicators to



improve sustainable development in those islands. They are the evident source of molding the landscapes. Though the importance of them are downplayed, they are the cause for global change in ecology. Although, the significant increase of scientific knowledge is due to Indigenous people and they help the society and environment without the ulterior motive. We respect them and hope for their well-being.

The pandemic inevitably will result in significant short-term and long-term economic disruptions. The social and economic consequences of the crisis will be better evaluated in the long term. Kodavas are focusing to dedicate all their efforts to make sure that the outbreak does not become as deadly as it has been in some of the European countries. The coming few weeks are crucial in the fight against the pandemic.



## YORUBA



The Yoruba people (Yoruba: *Ìran Yorùbá*) are an ethnic group that inhabits western Africa, mainly Nigeria, Benin, Togo and part of Ghana. The Yoruba constitute around 45 million people worldwide. The vast majority of this population is from Nigeria, where the Yoruba make up 21% of the country's population making us one of the largest ethnic groups in Africa. Most Yoruba people speak the Yoruba language, which is the Niger-Congo language with the largest number of native speakers.

The Yoruba share borders with the very closely related Itsekiri to the south-east in the North West Niger delta (who are ancestrally related to the Yoruba, choose to maintain a distinct cultural identity), Bariba to the north in Benin and Nigeria, the Nupe also to the north and the Ebira to the northeast in central Nigeria. To the east are the Edo, Ẹsan and the Afemai groups in mid-western Nigeria. Adjacent to the Ebira and Edo groups are the related Igala people found in the northeast, on the left bank of the Niger River. To the southwest are the Gbe speaking Mahi, Gun, Fon and Ewe who border Yoruba communities in Benin and Togo. Significant Yoruba populations in other West African countries can be found in Ghana, Benin, Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone.

It is known that the Yoruba tribe spread through the country. We are in Ogun, state, western Nigeria, created in 1976 and comprising former Abeokuta and Ijebu provinces of the former Western state, the latter carved out of the former Western region in 1967. Ogun is bounded by Oyo and Osun states to the north, Lagos state to the south, Ondo state to the east, and the Republic of Benin to the west.

### Convid 19 and our resilience

The indigenous Yoruba tribe in Ogun State, Abeokuta to be precise has learnt the new norms and it is no news that covid19 had come to abide with us for sometime. The Muslims that cover all parts of their body have no problems in adapting to the new way of living which is covering their nose and mouth with a mask.. The Christian is also doing the same. The tribe permits you to have your religion without problems. We have learnt to live with love and unity...

We can only wax stronger with love.



## VEDDHA



Sri Lanka's Aborigines', or the Veddha's meaning "people of the forest" of

Sri Lanka has a history much older. Archaeological evidence suggests that modern Veddha's Neolithic ancestors inhabited this island as far back as 10,000 BC. The Vedda are traditionally cave dwellers, although it is not unusual to have them built straw huts near villages as their homes. Interestingly, they would change houses a few times a year following animal migration patterns. The original language of the Veddhas is the Vedda language. Today it is used primarily by the interior Veddhas.

The COVID-19 pandemic's impact is predicted to be long-lasting with intergenerational impacts for both veddas and non-Indigenous peoples. vedda peoples offer untapped potential for understanding how we are shaping resilient solutions to COVID-19 and similar threats in the future. Indigenous peoples' communities are also strengthening their efforts to protect their livelihoods and traditional ways of life in the face of the pandemic.



## MUKKAVARS

Enabling Mukkuvars to address COVID-19, Tamilnadu State, India Enabling 308 Most Vulnerable Families of the Indigenous 'Mukkuvar' Marine Fisher Folk Community to Encounter Impacts of the COVID -19 Pandemic in Kanyakumari District, Tamilnadu State, India



The indigenous Mukkuvar marine fisherfolk community of Kanyakumari district is in urgent need of support in the form of basic necessities to sustain themselves during the present lockdown on movement, loss of livelihoods and lack of transport, along with assistance to address, mitigate and halt the spread of COVID-19 in the community.

Some specific needs and problems being faced by the community are as follows:

The whole Mukkuvar indigenous marine fisherfolk community is facing temporary loss of livelihood – fishermen, women head load fish vendors, traders, etc.

Being a community which largely carries out a hand-to-mouth existence with no financial reserves, the present restrictions have placed them in a precarious position in which they lack the basic necessities of food and healthcare.

Vulnerable groups such as women, the elderly and very young children suffer greatly as their special needs cannot be met during this period.

The community lacks the financial resources to purchase the sanitary materials such as facemasks, sanitizers and household disinfectants to combat the spread of infection.

Being largely uneducated, the community lacks awareness about the Coronavirus, its transmission and the reasons behind precautions to be undertaken.

As large families live in small houses in crowded conditions, they are unable to follow general precautions such as distancing and isolation of persons with any suspicious symptoms. The potential for the disease to spread in the community is therefore very high. They need guidance to learn and practice precautionary measures that have been modified to their reality.



After that the Government Had Made various steps to fulfill their needs...  
Nowadays social activists are donating Money ...so the aspects was Well and good



## MONGOLOID

The Nicobar islands are home to two 'Mongoloid' tribes- SHOMPEN & NICOBARESE. They came to the islands from Malay- Burma coast several thousand years ago. SHOMPEN OR SHOM-PEN: Having a population of nearly 380; They practice hunter-gathering and use various plants & their products for survival. NICOBARESE: With a population over 30,000; they depend on horticulture. Here, people try to maintain their own distinct culture.



### TRIBAL RESILIENCE PROGRAM

These tribes have suffered a lot in the past few decades due to earthquakes and tsunamis in Indian ocean leading to huge destruction.

THE BIA TRIBAL RESILIENCE PROGRAM (TRP) PROVIDES RESOURCES SPANNING ACROSS INDIAN COUNTRY, TO FEDERALLY-RECOGNIZED TRIBAL NATIONS AND ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES IN ORDER TO BUILD RESILIENCE THROUGH LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT, DELIVERY OF DATA AND TOOLS, TRAINING AND TRIBAL CAPACITY BUILDING.

Their focus lies primarily on impacts associated with harmful environmental trends on tribal and treaty trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and safety. The resilient ocean and coastal management effort within the annual awards program is in place to assist tribes in accessing the planning, science and tools, and capacity building needs of coastal tribes.

Since liberalization many indigenous people migrated to urban cities to work in unorganized sectors. Due to the pandemic, now they have to return back making them prone to disease. This will have a huge impact on their community. The lack of healthcare facilities and reach of schemes by the government may also endanger their survival. These tribes have their own economic differentiation and specific cultural identity and constitute a major segment in the multiethnic social fabric of India.



