



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

WAYS TO EXPAND JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FIELD OF ANTHROPOLOGY IN SCHOOLS UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF KERALA IN MALAPPURAM AND KOZHIKODE DISTRICTS OF KERALA IN INDIA

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Most of the Graduates, Post Graduates, MPhil. Holders and Ph.D. Holders in Anthropology in Malappuram and Kozhikode districts are unemployed because of the less job opportunities for the subject Anthropology in Districts of Malappuram and Kozhikode in Kerala.

Most of them are unemployed because they are not able to find a job as Anthropology School Teacher in Malappuram and Kozhikode Districts of Kerala. This is mainly because of the non availability of Anthropology as a subject in Kerala State SCERT Government/Aided/Private schools in Malappuram and Kozhikode Districts of Kerala. Kerala State SCERT Government/Aided/Private schools in the State of Kerala in India comes under the Jurisdiction of Minister for General Education of Kerala. SCERT is the autonomous institution which decides syllabus for classes in schools under the control of Government. The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Kerala is an autonomous body entrusted with planning, implementation and evaluation of all academic programmes from pre-school to higher secondary levels in Schools which comes under the control of the Government of Kerala.^[1]

The Employment Chances for an Anthropology Graduate and Post Graduate is almost nil in Malappuram and Kozhikode District. The one and only institution which provides a bit of employment for Graduates, Post Graduates, MPhil. holders and Ph.D. Holders in Anthropology in Malappuram and Kozhikode districts are KIRTADS. KIRTADS (Kerala Institute for Research Training and Development Studies of Scheduled Castes and Tribes) is a governmental organization under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development ministry and functions as a separate Directorate. Its main objective is to carry out research that helps to promote development among the Scheduled Communities in Kerala. It also attempts to identify the needs and problems confronting the marginalized section of the population and suggest recommendations to the government in finding a panacea for their overall development. This was established in the year 1972 as Tribal Research and Training Centre (TR & TC) in a national pattern, which was subsequently got recognized as KIRTADS in 1979 and is working among all the scheduled communities for their development.^[2]

The only schools where Anthropology is taught in Kerala are eleven (11) Government Higher Secondary Schools in Kannur District and one (1) Government Higher Secondary School in Kozhikode near Kannur District Border of Kerala.^{[3][4]}

School Students and College Students in Malappuram District and Kozhikode District don't have the opportunity to study Anthropology in their respective native Districts. In the whole state of Kerala, only Kannur University and Mahatma Gandhi University (M.G University) have the subject Anthropology in their list of subjects. Kannur university is located in the Kannur District of Kerala. Mahatma Gandhi University (M.G University) is located in the Kottayam District of Kerala. Kannur University offers BA, MA, MPhil and PhD in Anthropology and Mahatma Gandhi University (M.G University) offers MA and MPhil in Anthropology.^{[5][6]} The Department of Anthropology, which was established under the University of Calicut in its Thalassery Centre in 1986, was transferred to Kannur University in 1996.^[7] Schools and Colleges in Malappuram District and Kozhikode District don't have the subject Anthropology in their list of courses.

Kerala Government Higher Secondary Schools in Kerala have Anthropology as part of Plus One (+1) and Plus Two (+2) Humanities Stream syllabus. Kerala Plus One (+1) and Plus Two (+2) subject combinations for Humanities Stream with Anthropology are as follows:

- 1) History, Economics, Politics, Anthropology
- 2) Economics, Statistics, Anthropology, Social Work.^[8]

But not a single Kerala State Government/Aided/Private school with State syllabus (SCERT) in Malappuram District and in all other Districts except Kannur District (11 Government Schools) and Kozhikode District (1 Government school near Kannur District Border / inside Kannur University territory) have Anthropology as part of Plus One (+1) and Plus Two (+2) Humanities Stream.

Introducing Anthropology subject combination in Humanities Stream for Plus One (+1) and Plus Two (+2) classes in all the Kerala State Government/Aided/Private Schools in Malappuram and Kozhikode Districts would increase the chances for Anthropology aspirants to study Anthropology in Schools and will increase employment opportunities for Graduates ,Post Graduates, M.Phil. Holders and Ph.D. Holders in Anthropology.

There is a big existential crisis going on among the Graduates ,Post Graduates, M.Phil. Holders and Ph.D. Holders in Anthropology. The Government of Kerala should take this issue seriously and expand Job opportunities in the Subject Anthropology as part of their State Educational and Employment policy for Kerala to solve this crisis.

In order to find solution to this employment crisis in the field of Anthropology, the Government should implement the following measures :

1. Introducing Anthropology as part of subject combination for Plus One (+1) and Plus Two (+2) Humanities Stream in all the Kerala State Government/Aided/Private schools in Malappuram and Kozhikode Districts of Kerala .This will lead to creation of Higher Secondary School Teacher in Anthropology (HSST Anthropology) vacancies in all Kerala State Government/Aided/Private Schools in Malappuram and Kozhikode Districts of Kerala and Anthropology aspirants will also get a chance to study Anthropology in Plus One (+1) and Plus Two (+2) in Malappuram and Kozhikode Districts of Kerala.
2. Making MA (Anthropology) with SET in Anthropology without B.Ed. as one of the Eligible Qualification for Higher Secondary School Teacher in Sociology (HSST Sociology) vacancies in Kerala State Government/Aided/Private Schools in Malappuram and Kozhikode Districts of Kerala as there are syllabus similarities between subject Sociology syllabus and subject Anthropology syllabus. B.Ed. is not required for Higher Secondary School Teacher in Anthropology (HSST Anthropology) vacancies in Kerala according to Rules and Regulations of Kerala Government. The Eligible Qualification for HSST Anthropology is MA (Anthropology) with SET in Anthropology without B.Ed.^[9] This will lead to an increase in Job opportunities for Anthropology Postgraduates.

Integrating these measures with the Kerala State Educational and Employment Policy can to a great extent decrease unemployment among the Graduates ,Post Graduates, M.Phil. Holders and Ph.D. Holders in Anthropology. Also Anthropology is a widely coveted subject in First World countries because it has the potential to invoke radical social changes in the society. Anthropology is the only Holistic and Ethnorelative subject in the world where Social science and Science meet together. Anthropology is a unique progeny of marriage alliance between Social science and Science. Kerala already has the Highest Human Development index (HDI) in India. Inclusion of Anthropology in the State Educational Policy reforms will lead to drastic social changes in the Kerala Society. Kerala already has the Highest Human Development index (HDI) in India. Expanding the scope of Anthropology in the state of Kerala will help us to take the Human Development Index (HDI) of Kerala to much greater Heights and even better than the Scandinavian Countries. Anthropology has the potential to make Kerala ‘‘ THE TRUE GOD’S OWN COUNTRY’ in reality and to Reconstruct Mahabali’s Utopian land where the Happy Index of Kerala is better than Finland.

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