



# Tribal Education: A Critical Analysis Of The Problems And Their Solutions

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**Abstract:** Education is necessary for overall human development. But we often see the inequality of education because of which poor talented children are affected, especially the tribal children. But if we all show the light of education to the tribal students by resolving the racial differences, then equality of opportunity will come in education. First of all, it is necessary to eliminate superstitions and ignorance from tribal society. In the era of 21st century every tribal students should be made technologically proficient. We should eradicate the number of dropout students from schools. The teacher should strive to bring all the tribal students into the area of education. A mass awareness is the key to overcome ignorance. It is the principal duty of all of us to make the tribal society free from the oppression of ignorance and to form a beautiful society.

**Key words-**Tribal, Education, Students.

**Introduction-**According to Aristotle, education means "creation of sound mind in a sound body". We should spend time to do mental exercises to awake our brain and to work towards improving the four emotional elements of mental fitness which are self- acceptance, self- esteem, resilience and emotional management. There are different views regarding education from different philosophers and different educationist. Education is very important to every person. The ST students deserve the equal right to get education like that of general category students. Without educating the ST students of our country we cannot hope for a developed nation. ST students plays a vital role in the all round progress of a society. If we want to make democracy successful, ST students must be educated. Literate tribal parents will exhibit better attitude towards education of their children than the illiterate tribal parents. One of the major challenges in the tribal areas is the lack of access to school. The government should come forward to establish more schools in those tribal localities and to make arrangement for transportation for children who live far from schools.

Due to poor adjustment between the tribal welfare department and the school education department, the tribal students are deprived of proper education. Tribal social environment is also responsible for dropping out of tribal students in large number from school. The problem of health and nutrition is very common among tribal people due to the lack of proper medical and sanitary facilities and poverty. The main causes behind the dropping out of tribal students from schools are conservative minds of parents, negative attitude of tribal community towards education, financial problems of the families, lack of various facilities in schools etc.

The tribal students face many adversities and problems. A few common ones are listed below:

- Poverty and deprivation- The tribal children in villages are considered as the weakest section of the society in terms of common socioeconomic factors such as poverty and inadequate primary health facilities and exploitation.
- Economic and technological backwardness- Poverty, lack of resources, lack of awareness, traditional mind set etc are some of the major reasons for economic and technological backwardness in tribal population.
- Socio-cultural handicaps- The tribal children always face difficulties in their socio-economic development due to various factors like lack of shelter, geographical and cultural isolation etc.
- Problems of assimilation with the non tribal population- Lack of assimilation with the non-tribal population may force tribal children to change their identity and it reduces the diversity.
- Illiteracy- Illiteracy among tribal is a major hindrance to their development. Economic problem, caste discrimination, and technological barriers lead to illiteracy in tribal children in rural areas.
- Problems of health and nutrition- Poverty, lack of quality food, non availability of medicine are the barrier to the complete physical and mental development of the tribal children.
- Conservative mentality- As tribal children have a common culture, dialect and religion in on hand, they also have a strong conservative mentality on the other hand. This also creates a barrier to adopt modern education. Tribes have a different way of living with a distinct cultural pattern. They live a miserable life without enough resources and have a lot of issues and problem such as economic problem, illiteracy, superstitions, housing and nutrition problem.

#### Major obstacles to solve educational problems:-

Lack of interest in school- Parents of tribes children are not properly educated. They don't know the value of education. So they are unable to motivate their children towards education.

Economic Barden and unemployment- Most of the families of tribal students live below the poverty line. Due to economic barden, parents cannot send their children to school. They prefer to engage their children in earning activities rather than to send them to school.

Punishment by the authorities: Often teachers strike, hammer and torture poorly performing children, so the children leave the school from the panic of being tortured.

Lack of parental support- Sometimes parents do not want to send their children to school due to ignorance. This develops anti-school attitude among tribal children.

Child early marriage- In tribal areas, girls are given marriage at a very early age. Girls are forcefully engaged in house keepings. Therefore no girl can come to the field of study. Child early marriage must be stopped.

Low mentality- Superstitions are also responsible for the backwardness of the tribal students. They have to be brought out of their low mentality. Exploitation- Deprivation is a curse. Upper caste people always exploit tribal societies. Government should take effective steps to stop deprivation of tribal students from everything.

Suggestions:

- A campaigning programme should be designed to reduce illiteracy and promote literacy in tribal areas.
- Some effective study materials should be prepared in tribal languages on elementary education to increase interest of tribal children towards education.
- Many tribal female and male teachers should be appointed in the schools that are located at tribal areas.
- In rural tribal areas school should be provided with transport facilities. • Various fellowships, scholarship, awards, stipends should be given to tribal students so that they can continue their

study towards higher education level.

- Proper systematic observation should be continued so that all the schemes for the benefit of tribal students would be implemented properly.

#### Conclusion:

Education system is currently designed for the dominant group. There needs to create supportive mechanism that supplement the integration of tribal children into the formal education system. The tribal students should be encouraged to take education by using both tribal and state languages simultaneously during the pre- primary and primary levels and creating supplementary relevant tribal learning materials. In tribal areas various monetary or non-monetary incentives for teachers should be introduced to encourage them to provide effective education to tribal children.

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