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**EMPOWERMENT, SOCIAL JUSTICE, INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT :  
ISSUES & PERSPECTIVES OF TRIBAL TAMILNADU**

**Editor**

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## TRIBES IN SIRUMALAI HILLS –A STUDY

Dr. M.Nageshwar

This paper entitled "Tribes in Sirumalai hills" – A Study. The term tribe has a Latin root. It has carried different connotations in different countries. However, in India, today the term "tribe" conveys a meaning of a bewildering and enchanting group of people who have been known by the various names from time immemorial such as *Vanavasi*, *Adivasi*, *Vanyajati* and *Adimiyati*. The study Carried out in the following settlements of Paliyans tribal's like Ooradi, Madagamalai, Ponnuruvi, Kannadiparai and Thaalakadai in Sirumalai hills in Dindigul district.

### Area of Study

The Sirumalai hills lies latitude of 77°55' long 78°12' E in Dindigul district of Tamil Nadu. The tribal People mostly live in the forest hills and plateau, naturally isolated regions are differently termed as *Adivasi* (Original Settlers) *Adimniwasi* (oldest ethnological sectors of the population) *Adimjaati* (Primitive Caste) *Aboriginal* (Indigenous ) *Girijan* (Hills Man). Paliyans or Paliyars are typical hill tribal's inhabiting all over the hills tracts of south India, in small Pockets of isolated groups Dindigul district was carved out of the composite Madurai district in September 1985 as per G.O.NO 1255 (02.09.1985). The new district named after the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Late C.N. Anna Durai as "Dindigul Anna District" This District was renamed as various points of Time Since 1985. It presently named as dindigul district from 01.07.1997. presently there are eight Taluks in the District. There are three Municipalities and 24 town Panchayats and seven census Town in the Districts. There are 14 Community Development Blocks and 362 Revenue Villages in Dindigul District in 2016 Government of Tamil Nadu declared Dindigul as a Corporation.

### Concept of Tribes

The concept of this paper has the tribe Means a group of human beings have a defined of life with definite rules, customs, morality, Tradition, language and way of worships. The Term *Adivasis* (Original *Vasi*- inhabitant) has become current among certain people. The international labour organisation has classified sick people indigenous. A tribe is a social group of simple kind , the members of which speak a common dilert have a single government act together for common purpose and have a common name, contiguous territory, a relatively uniform culture or a way of life and a tradition of common descent.. They traditionally live in forest and mountains. They derived their food and fodder from animal and plants.

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