

Anthropological Perspective of Andaman and Nicobar Islands in Pankaj Sekhsaria's *The Last Wave*

S. Anusya

Master of Arts

Department of English

Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education, Krishnankoil 626126, Tamil Nadu, India

Dr.C.Jothi

Assistant Professor

Department of English

Abstract

Literature refers to an art form which has artistic or intellectual value. Definition of literature does not play a constant value. The concept of what is literature also changes over the time as well. There is a difference between “what of literature” and “how of literature”. Literature shows its essence and effects through words. The formal definition for “literariness” or “poetics” of literature makes a difference between the ordinary speech and other kinds of meaning. Indian novelists are more prominent in English. They deal with issues like nationalism, freedom struggle, social realism and individual consciousness etc.,. The novel, *The Last Wave* which has been published in the year 2014, deals with the loss of nature by both humans and nature also. This novel also traces the life of Jarawas, the native people of Andaman islands. The novel is a parallel journey as many things seem to fall in place, the climax, loss of nature, loss of community. The novel *The Last Wave* [2014] shows the life of Jarawas and the nature of Andaman. The nature of Andaman has been spoiled due to the establishment of research center. Jarawas are not aware of their origin, their historical relations, interactions and animosities with the great Andamanese. The place of Jarawas is occupied by the settlers. This paper attempts to explain the exploitation of the nature from the eco-centric point of view.

Key Words

Andaman islands, Ecocriticism, Nature, Jarawa Tribes, Exploitation, Loss of Culture

The Jarawas is one of the oldest aboriginal tribes, native of the Andaman islands in India. Their current population is evaluated to be around 250-400 individuals, with their numbers prevailing that of other indigenous residents of the Andaman islands. Jarawa is one of the ongan languages. It is spoken by the Jarawa people inhabiting the interior and south interior south Andaman island, and the west coast of middle Andaman island. Since the 1990's, concerns between Jarawa groups and outsiders grew plentiful, some Jarawas have become ordinary viewers at colony, where they commerce, interact with tourists, get medical aid and even consigned their children to school. The Jarawas are recognized as an adivasi group in India.

In 1992 Jarawa attack the bush police camp near Tirur. In 2001 Jarawa.s actual count 240, onge actual counts 96 sentinelese estimate 39. Great Andamanese actual count 43 total population of Andaman islands 3,14,239. In 2011 Jarawa actual count 383 ; great Andamanese actual count 54 total population of the Andaman islands 3,80,581. In 2012 a controversy breaks out as the British newspaper Sunday observer releases a short video showing six 'naked' Jarawa women dangling on the Andaman trunk road at the insistence of unseen male voices.

The Jarawas hunt pig and marineturtles and fish with arc and shafts in the coral-fringed reefs for crabs and fish, including striped catfish – eel and the toothed pony fish. They also accumulate fruits, wild roots, tubers and honey. Both Jarava men and women collect convene honey from wiffy trees. During the honey collection, the members of the group will sing songs to utter their delight. The honey collector will chew the sap of leaves of a bee-repellant, plant such as ooyekwalin, which they will then spray with their mouths at the bees to keep them away. Once the bees are out, the Jarawa can chop the bees nest, which they will put in a wooden bucket on their back. The Jarawa always play tuba after eating honey.

The Jarawa are the most antiquated people in the world, the last posterity of the early hominids. They lived from Africa to Asia 70,000 years ago and they still live today on the Andaman islands in India. They are victims of a human zoo, a photo safari provided by the Indian military on the Andaman islands. Twice a day, under combination of armed tutorage, they are forced to stand on a road to be photographed by tourists, like animals in a zoo.

The Jarawas live in an egalitarian world, with no relationship of predominance between men and women. They thrive fully within the quantum and each constitute his or her own skills. Collective action is essential. There is no action important than others his behaviour to secure the harmony of the group. Jarawa tribe is one of the important tribal people in India and lived in Andaman Nicobar islands. The name Jarawa originates from the grand Andamanese and means splendid in one of the ten languages to monolingual.

Their main occupation is hunting and accumulating the fruits and other things. They never depend on others. They hunt in the sea and in the forests for their feeding. Still, they clothe the animal rind as the clothes to suffuse their bodies. They do not desire to wear the city clothes. Though the government and social workers distribute clothes and endeavour to bring them into the mainstream of the community, they never admit and agree to the transition of their lifestyle.

Jarawa people's language is very arduous to the others to understand. Before the 19th century, their home lands are located in the section of south Andaman islands. Jarawa tribe are robust. However, they have a bad practice of taking mightily opium and undulate measure of alcohol. Their surroundings are incited with illness so most of them fall ill and die. Subsequently they transport to western region of Andaman islands. The people are segregated and do not easily mingle with others. Now a few development has been amplified gradually in

their social life due to the attempts of government and social welfare societies. Due to these attempts, they are maintaining habitual concerns with the lateral surface world.

The Jarawa are the last descendants of the first up-to-date human. They left Africa to explore the world seventy thousand years ago. They live in groups of about fifty individuals. The Jarawas are one of the conclusive afro-asian people of the Andaman islands in India. The Jarawa are pygmies. They guide a huntsman lifestyle and lived in entire isolation for tens of thousands of years. The Jarawas are semi-nomadic. Their abstinence consists mainly of wild pigs, crabs and fish that they apprehend with bows and arrows in coral reefs. The Jarawas also collect fruits, roots, bulbs and honey. Very little is known about the history of the Jarawas. Their animosity to the outside world has rescued them, but roughly no one has been able to study the Jarawa language and culture.

The Jarawas live convivial and free from castes or creeds, a leader or a hierarchy. They live simply on what nature give them among speculation on the future, among commiserating the past. The Jarawas only hunt for what they want; they are courteous to their environment. They live in conformation, without terrorism or hatred, in silence in similarity for millennia. They have manipulated to rescue their life. If they are suppressed, then the remembrance of the first human beings, the grand sire of all of us, will be lost.

The Andaman and Nicobar islands, in the Indian Neptune, is a union territory of India. Port Blair is the territory's administrative capital and vast city. The archipelago consists of 204 islands between the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman sea, about 200 kilometer south of Myanmar. The islands have 314,239 Indian residents and 420 Jarawa. The Andaman islands are house to the ultimate afro-Asian pedigrees in the world. Some of these pedigrees, such as the upper Andamanese, have chased others, such as the ongo almost departed. Only the Jarawas and

the sentinelese have manipulated to confront and protect their runway of life. The largest island is called extensive Andaman. It is 250 kilometers long. The Jarawas live in the southern part of the island. The Jarawa territory is 115 kilometer long and 10 to 20km broad. Entrance to the tour by land or by sea is entirely forbidden.

The Jarawas are one of the four clans in the Andaman which is a quantum of islands in the Indian Neptune. The Jarawas are hunters and assemblers and live on two vast islands. The Jarawas figure between 200-400 which is a vast figure when compared to the other clans in Andaman islands. They are nomadic, living in bands of 40-50 pedigree. An epidemic of measles in 1999 and 2006 wiped away about ten percentage of the Jarawa population. Alcoholism , obesity, diabetes and compression are now arising as the other reasons for the reduce in their population. Jarawa means “admirable” in the language of the grand Andamanese. The Jarawa call themselves “ya-eng-nga” which means “human being”.

The Jarawashave deep curly hair, long and sturdy hands and legs and strong bones. They are physically fit for hunting, and fishing. The present Jarawa society bears a vast segment in the population as propagation astir population of teenagers and youthful members. The wedding popularly occurs between the adolescents. A widow/widower can marry. The Jarawas are stringently monogamous, subsequent weddings are general. The Jarawa children at the age of six or seven do not be with their parents but live with other Jarawa children and stir from one place to another independently until the Jarawa gets married.

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