

MAATHRU BHOOMI FOUNDATION

Blueprint of the projects

Title of the Project:

“Research study and making of documentary film on grass root level telugu folks songs based on ritual naratives and caste myths of rural Andra Pradesh existence from 11th Centurary and utization of their tradional folk instruments “

Brief introduction of the project

The Telugu folk literature is enormously rich that it contains all major categories of world folk literature. The folk literary categories, which were classified in various languages by the scholars across the world, can be found in the Telugu folk literature. Some unique kind of folk literary forms like Caste myth also can be found in it. It is very rich not only in terms of variety of genres but the enormous size of the repertoires of various performing castes and individual singers. Many scholars have already classified Telugu folk literature in different divisions and sub divisions in an efficient way depending on the material they have considered for the study. Krishna Kumari’s classification is more comprehensive even among other works on Telugu folk literature. But few genres were missing even in this classification. She did not consider caste myth as a separate genre. It occupies a lion share in Telugu folk literature in terms of size and a prominent place in terms of its social importance and function. And some more sub divisions can also be found in a close look at the grass root level of Telugu Folk Literature.

The Telugu folk literature can be classified on different aspects. The first aspect is on genre basis, second is on the persons and patronage, the third one is its utility. It would be convenient to elaborate in reverse direction and first I would take utility aspect. Functional and entertainment genres:

The entire Telugu folk literature can be classified on the basis of its utility that is how it is functioning. It can be divided into functional and nonfunctional or entertainment genres. Some of the literary forms are both at a time. Caste myths and Ritual narratives have specific social functions, they are not for entertainment. They are basically intended to carry a specific social function.

The folk literature created by men, women, and children consists of folk songs, song narratives, lullabies, work songs, women songs, different other kind of songs, general tales, wonder tales proverbs, riddles and so on. Telugu folk literature is very rich for all these genres. Collection and researching of these folk genres has been started in the colonial period itself.

The existing studies also suggest that cultural forms are vanishing due to lack of support and encouragement from neither government nor public in account of busy life. There is no documentation of associated songs, dance movements, making of masks, costumes, drumming tradition, and various legends and mythical tales.

2) Objectives of the research, data creation or documentation of the project

- 1. Documentation and Rejuvenation of vanishing folk songs at grass root level in rural villages of Andhra Pradesh.**
- 2. Documentary film making of various folk songs of Rural people and their performances .**
- 3. Digitalization of folk literature and their scripts.**
- 4. Promoting and encouragement for these cultural forms for their rehabilitation.**
- 5. Drawing of government attention to take necessary steps for rehabilitation of folk songs prevailed in Rural villages of Andhra Pradesh.**
- 6. Documentation of various folk songs, lyrics, legends and mythical tales.**
- 7. Archiving of their folk dance forms, masks, costumes and traditional dances etc.**
- 8. Digitalization of their folk dance forms, drumming tradition and folklore traditional dances.**
- 9. Maintenance of records of these folk cultural forms to show our future generation.**

3) Implementation of the project

a). Research methods proposed: In order to accomplish the above objectives, collection of data and information of varied aspects becomes essential. In view of the sensitive nature of the issue and the multiplicity of interests involved, collection of data using the method of structured questionnaire alone would not be adequate. Therefore, it would be rewarding if a pluralistic methodology involving the following tools are employed to generate a reliable data and information base;

- i. Pre – tested schedule;
- ii. Focus group interviews with the folk artists, community leaders, village panchayat heads and ; and
- iii. Case studies

The information and data collected from different sources would be collected to get a comprehensive view of the issues involved. It would be essential to conduct a validation workshop where the data and information collected from multiple sources can be discussed before reporting the same.

b). Methodology: In order to accomplish the above objectives, we have been collecting data and information from varied sources the folk artists, their families, activists, NGOs, rescue, culture promotional institutions, media persons and other community people.

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On the basis of the clues and lead information gathered in the first stage, the other areas where these folk artists prevalent has been collected from the respondents using the three methods structured questionnaire, focus group interviews and case studies. The second stage should logically take us to smaller towns and bigger villages.

The leads provided in the second stage would be used to reach the 'source' in the third stage. The group at the basis of a priori reasoning

should lead to the specific social / caste / tribal groups at the habitations level. The same pluralistic methodology would be employed to generate the data from the respondents / focus groups / case. The data collected and analyzed in furtherance of the objectives of the study.

SAMPLE SIZE:

The study is being covered all the folklore artists. However, if the number is very large, then, a representative sample would be decided either in the first stage or second stage of the field study. The respondents for focus group / key informant interviews, however, would be purposively selected to generate a reliable database. Similarly, case studies is being determined as to capture a representative cross section of children involved in the profession.

STUDY AREA:

It is proposed to conduct the research study in the entire state of Andhra Pradesh

TIME REQUIRED:

The study would be completed in 6 months the date of commencement. The first eight weeks would be divided into collection of data information, while data analysis and report would take two months.

PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES REQUIRED:

For implementation of the proposed project, the following research personnel has been working i.e. Research officer , Computer operator

As the survey involves a sensitive issue, selection of research officer and investigators has been appointed with adequate training and experience. The research officer would be responsible for day to day coordination of the proposed project.

4) Time frame of the project

The study would be completed in 6 months from the date of commencement. The first three months would be divided into collection of data information, while data analysis and report would take three months.

5) Specific areas of the respective state in which the art form (s) is practiced- Geographical, typographical and other related aspects that the project may cover

Entire Area of Coastal Andhra Pradesh consist of 6 districts i.e. Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kakinada

6) Photos (preliminary level) related to the project/art form (for the intended website)

ENCLOSED SEPARATELY

7) Conclusion of the project as you have envisioned

As mentioned in the project proposal, the project is being implemented and good response has been received across the State of Andhra Pradesh.