Title: Customs, Culture and Religion of Paniya Tribe and their Social Change.

Part. A General Information of the Informant

1. Name in Full: …………………………………………………………………………. 
2. Date of Birth: ……………………………….age as on Dec. 2005…………………………. 
3. Address : ………………………………………………………………………………………….
   …………………………………………………………………………………………….
   Panchayat: ……………………………………………………. 
   Ward No. …………………………………………………………….
   Colony …………………………………………………………….
4. Father’s name: …………………………………………………….
5. Place of Birth: …………………………………………………………….
6. Mother tongue: …………………………………………………….
7. Sex : M□ F□
9. Name of the Tribe ………………………. Clan ……………………………………….
11. How long you are following the above mentioned religion? 1. Less than 5 years □ 2. 5 to less than 10 years □ 3. 10 to less than 15 years □ 4. 15 to less than 20 years □ 5. 20 to less than 25 years □ 6. From the birth□
13. Educational status: 1. Illiterate □ 2. Primary (1-4) □ 3. Upper Primary (5-7) □
   4. Rs. 1500. --2000. □ 5. 2000- Above □
Part B

**Objective: To trace the origin and development of the Paniyas of South India and their present social structure.**

**Origin and Developments of Paniyas**
17. From which locality your forefathers came to this colony ……………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………
18. Is there any history, legend, song or myth about the origin of the settlement?
……………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………
19. How many years old is your colony? 1. Less than 5 years□ 2. 5 to less than 10 years□
3. 10 to less than 15 years□ 4. 15 to less than 20 years□ 5. Any other ………….  
20. How long are you staying in this settlement?
1. Less than 5 years□ 2. 5 to less than 10 years□ 3. 10 to less than 15 years□
4. 15 to less than 20 years□ 5. From the birth□ 6. I don’t know□

**Social Structure**
22. Do you have elder or chief of the colony? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ If ‘yes’ his name …………
23. How did he become the chief? 1. Democratically elected □ 2. Inherited from forefathers□
3. Achieved □ 4. Self made leader □ 5. Any other means …
24. Do they have system of 1. class □ 2. caste □ 3. clan □ among your tribe?
If ‘Yes’ to what extent and its origin ………………………………………………………
………………………………………………………………

**Social Development**
28. Who is doing the following welfare activities in your colony?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Programs</th>
<th>Govt.</th>
<th>NGOS</th>
<th>Any other Agency</th>
<th>Nobody</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Educational Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Community Health Services</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>AIDS and other decease awareness pro.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Environmental Protection</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Nutrition Education</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Water facility</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Adult Education</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Vocational Education</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Human Rights Awareness</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Family Welfare and Family planning</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Rehabilitation and Relief pro.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


b. Do you have vehicle road towards your settlement? 1. yes □ 2. no □
30. Are you satisfied with the current development programmes? 1. yes 2. no
   Give reasons.
31. What do you do for your colony, if you were a leader like Panchayat President or MLA or MP?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

Media & Communication
32. Do you get daily News paper in your colony? 1. yes 2. no
33. Do you read daily News paper? 1. yes 2. no

Language
35. a. Is your language similar to Tamil or Malayalam? 1. Yes/No with Tamil 2. Yes/No with Mal.
b. Do you speak Paniyabhasha? 1. yes 2. no
36. Give the following relationship (kinship) and other words in your language.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Paniya</th>
<th>Tamil</th>
<th>Malayalam</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Paniya</th>
<th>Tamil/</th>
<th>Malayalam</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
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<td>Daughter</td>
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<td>Father</td>
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<td>Mother in law</td>
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<td>Sister</td>
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<td>Sister in law</td>
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<td>Son</td>
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<td>Brother in law</td>
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</tbody>
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Part C

Age group between 40-80

Objectives: To study the Customs & Culture of Paniyas.

Family

       Present 1. Joint family □ 2. Nuclear family □

38. Your family Composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Relation with head of the family</th>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Monthly Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Customs: Clothing

39. Clothing made up off


41. Clothing: for Women.

42. Clothing: for boys.

43. Clothing: for girls.

Customs: Food

44. You are a ........... 1. Vegetarian □ 2. Non-vegetarian □
       In the Present 1. Breakfast ........ 2. Lunch ........ 3. Dinner ......

46. Food items prepared in the
47. Methods of preparing foods.
   In the past  1. Burned □ 2. Cooked □ 3. Fried □ 4. Any other ----------------------------
   In the present 1. Burned □ 2. Cooked □ 3. Fried □ 4. Any other ----------------------------

48. Your staple food in the past.
   1. Roots, leaves and fruits from the forest□ 2. Hunted animals □ 3. Crops through farming□
   4. Rice, Wheat / Tapioca□ 5. Any other ……….

49. Your staple food in the present.
   1. Roots, leaves and fruits from the forest□ 2. Hunted animals □ 3. Crops through farming□
   4. Rice, Wheat / Tapioca 5. Any other ……….

50. Type of fuel used for cooking in the past ……………………………………..
   5. Electric heater □  6. Any other ……….

51. Type of cooking fuel in the Present ……………..
   5. Electric heater□   6. Natural Gas□  7. Any other ……….

Customs: Ornaments

52. Type of ornaments used by Men.

53. Type of ornaments used by Women.

54. Is the ornaments related with anything of your religious faith?
   1. Yes□  2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
   If ‘yes’ which ways. ………………………………………………………………

Customs: Hunting

55. Whether hunting is related with religious faith?  1. Yes □ 2. No□ 3. I don’t know □

56. Rites and rituals related with hunting. 1. Offer imp. parts to god □ 2. Give offering in the temple □ 3. Any other ------

   5. Any other significance ………………………………………………………………………


Customs: Birth

60. Rites and Rituals associated with birth
   Past Present
   1. After conception …………………………………………………………………………………
   2. In the progressive months of conception ………………………………………………
   3. At the time of birth ……………………………………………………………………….
   4. Soon after birth ………………………………………………………………………………..
   5. Naming of the child …………………………………………………………………………..
      after how many days …………………………………………
      who gives name …………………………………………………………………………
      naming system …………………………………………………………………………………
      who does the rituals …………………………………………………………………………

61. Where does the delivery take place? In the past…… 1. In the hospital□ 2. Mother’s house□ 3.
    Husband’s house□ 4. Secluded shed □ 5. I don’t know□ 6. Any other ……..
    In the present…… 1. In the hospital□ 2. Mother’s house□ 3. Husband’s house□ 4. Secluded shed □ 5. Any other ………
62. Is there any special food for breast-feeding women in the past?  1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □  If 'yes' what are they ………………………………………………
In the present?  1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □  If 'yes' what are they ………

Customs: Puberty

Customs: Marriage
67. Cross cousin marriage, Parallel cousin marriage and elder sister’s daughter marriage are allowed or not? 1. Yes□  2. No□  3. I don’t know□
72. Whether young men and women are free to choose their partners or not? 1. Yes□  2. No□  3. I don’t know□
76. Is there any restriction from the family or the community to marry from any other tribe or non-tribe? 1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □
77. By marrying a non-tribal does one go up in the social order? 1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □
78. Is it lead to excommunication? 1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □
80. Who search partner for boys in the present? 1. Self □  2. parent□  3. relatives□  4. priest□  5. Any other ……………………………
82. Who search partner for girls in the present? 1. Self □  2. parent□  3. relatives□  4. priest □  5. Any other ……………………………
83. Is the love marriage is encouraged in the society in the past? 1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □
84. Is the love marriage is encouraged in the society in the present? 1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □
85. Is the polygamy is allowed? 1. Yes□  2. No□  3. I don’t know □  Explain ……………………………………………………………………………………………

86. Engagement Customs …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
87. Marriage Customs .................................................................
........................................................................................................
........................................................................................................

88. Where marriages usually conducted in the past?
89. Where is usually marriage conducted in the present?
90. Who will tie the marriage ledge (tali) to the bride? ----------------- When? ----

Customs: Dowry
91. Did you practice dowry system in the past? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
92. Do you practice dowry system in the present? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
93. Did you practice bride price in the past? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
94. Do you practice bride price in the present? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
95. What is the usual rate of dowry prevalent in your community? .................
96. Is the dowry system good? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □

Divorce
97. Do you have divorce cases in the past? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
98. Do you have divorce cases in the present? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
100. Who have the right to divorce in the present? 1. Men □ 2. Women □ 3. Both □ 4. I don’t know □
101. What are the procedures of divorce? __________________________________________

Customs: Death
102. Rites and rituals practised in association with death in the past: .................
........................................................................................................
........................................................................................................
103. Rites and rituals practised in association with death in the present: .................
........................................................................................................
........................................................................................................
104. Belief in the life after death in the past: .................................................
........................................................................................................
........................................................................................................
105. Belief in the life after death in the present: .............................................
........................................................................................................
........................................................................................................
106. Who does the death rites in the past?
107. Who does the death rites in the present?
108. Usually the dead body in the past:
   1. Buried □ 2. Criminated □ 3. Thrown to forest □ 4. Any other ..............
109. Usually the dead body in the present:
   1. Buried □ 2. Criminated □ 3. Thrown to forest □ 4. Any other ..............
110. Usually the dead body is taken in the past:
   1. In the box □ 2. Bamboo coat □ 3. Mat □ 4. Pala □ 5. Any other ............
111. Usually the dead body is taken in the present:
   1. In the box □ 2. Bamboo coat □ 3. Mat □ 4. Pala □ 5. Any other ............
112. Where did the dead body buried in the past?
113. Where did the dead body buried in the present?

114. What happens to the dead’s spirit in the traditional believe?
   1. Continue to stay in the house □  2. Go away to another world □  3. Occasionally come and visit the house □  4. Roaming out skirt of the colony □  5. Any other ………

115. What happens to the dead’s spirit in the present day’s believe?
   1. Continue to stay in the house □  2. Go away to another world □  3. Occasionally come and visit the house □  4. Roaming out skirt of the colony □  5. Any other …………………….

Customs: Health

116. How do you understand the reasons for sickness?

117. What do you do for sick in the past?
   1. Consult the priest □  2. Consult medium or magician □  3. Use herbal medicines □  4. Go to hospitals □  5. Any other ……………………………

118. What do you do for sick in the present?
   1. Consult the priest □  2. Consult medium or magician □  3. Use herbal medicines □  4. Go to hospitals □  5. Any other ……………………………

Customs: Traditional Life

119. How did they make fire in the ancient days?
   1. From stone □  2. From a preserved place □  3. Temples □  4. From Bamboo □  5. Any other ……………………

120. How do you know the seasons traditionally?
   1. Observing flowering plants □  2. Observing sun or moon or stars □  3. Observing ants □  4. Calendar □  5. Any other ……………………

121. How do you know the seasons presently?
   1. Observing flowering plants □  2. Observing sun or moon or stars □  3. Observing ants □  4. Calendar □  5. Any other ……………………………
Part D
Age group between 40-80

Objective: To evaluate the Traditional Religious Life of Paniyas and the changes taking place now in their Religious Life.

Religion
122. Name of the traditional religion ..............................................
123. Your present religion .................................................................
    If ‘yes’ reasons ...........................................................................
125. What did you believe in the following elements of traditional religion of the past?
God- Name of the God .................................................................
    Characteristics of God .............................................................
    Where does God live? ..............................................................
    Worship (Is there any object of worship) ....................................
        (Who will conduct) .........................................................
    Prayer .....................................................................................
    Offering and sacrifice .............................................................
Spirits – Kinds/ nature of spirits ......................................................
    Works of spirits ........................................................................
    Characteristics of spirits ........................................................
    Ancestral spirits ......................................................................
Status of Men and Women ..............................................................
.................................................................................................
Witch craft ...................................................................................
.................................................................................................
Taboos ..........................................................................................
.................................................................................................
Life after death .............................................................................
.................................................................................................

126. What do you believe of the following elements of traditional religion in the present?
God- Name of the God .................................................................
    Characteristics of God .............................................................
    Where does God live? ..............................................................
    Worship (who will conduct) .....................................................
        (Is there any object of worship).............................................
    Prayer .....................................................................................
    Offering and sacrifice .............................................................
Spirits – Kinds/ nature of spirits ......................................................
    Works of spirits ........................................................................
    Characteristics of spirits ........................................................
    Ancestral spirits ......................................................................
Status of Men and Women ..............................................................
.................................................................................................
Witch craft ...................................................................................
.................................................................................................
Taboos ..........................................................................................
.................................................................................................
Life after death .................................................................
........................................................................

127. How do you see the merits / demerits in the adopted religion?
i. merits .................................................................
ii. demerits .................................................................

128. Are you satisfied with new religion?
4. Very dissatisfied □ 5. I cannot say □

129. State the followings associated with your traditional religious life:
1. Temple .................................................................
2. Worship .................................................................
3. Deities (names, meanings and myths) ...........................................
4. Prayer .................................................................
5. Offering & Sacrifices ..........................................................
6. Magic .................................................................
7. Folk song .................................................................
8. Musical instruments ..........................................................

130. State the followings associated with your present religious life:
1. Temple .................................................................
2. Worship .................................................................
3. Deities (names, meanings and myths) ...........................................
4. Prayer .................................................................
5. Offering & Sacrifices ..........................................................
6. Magic .................................................................
7. Folk song (Kakkapattu) ..........................................................
8. Musical instruments ..........................................................

131. Is there any effects of Sankritization in your tribe? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
If ‘yes’ which ways .................................................................
i. When .................................................................
ii. How .................................................................

134. What are the festivals? (like Kudukkachery, Onam, Vishu) ..........................................................

135. Is there any myths associated with the religious festivals?
1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
If yes, explain .................................................................

136. What are the myths associated with the tribal religion? ..........................................................

137 Do you have any written religious book? 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. I don’t know □
If ‘yes’ explain .................................................................
Part E
Age group between 15-70

Objectives: To Study the Social Change due to Contextual Socio-Political and Environmental Problems and Challenges like Modernisation, Globalisation, Urbanisation, etc.

Social Changes
138. How do you like the social changes?  1. Extremely like □  2. Very like □

Changes: Family
139. Changes observed in the family life:
   1. Broken families□  2. Joint families to nuclear family□

Changes: Housing
140. How old is your house? ………………………
141. What type of roof does your house have?
142. What type of floor does your house have?
   1. Mud□   2. Cement□  3. Tiles□   4. Any other ……………
143. Changes observed in the housing. Your house
   1. One room□  2. Two rooms □3. Three rooms□  4. Any other ....................
144. Is your house electrified? 1. Yes □2. No□
145. Is there a Latrine in your house? 1. Yes □2. No□
   If yes, what type is it? 1. E.S.P. 2. Septic Tank / Single pit 3. Any other ---------------

Changes and Education
146. Do you believe that the education is the root cause of social change?
   1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know□
147. Do you think getting formal education has a direct link with social and economic development?  1. Yes
   □  2. No □  3. I don’t know□
148. Do you insist that your children should be sent to the school for education?
   1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know□
149. Why there are many drops out from the school?  1. School is far away from the colony □
   2. Ill-treat from the non tribal students and teachers □
   3. Lack of encouragement from parents□  4. Lack of encouragement from govt. □
   5. Economic reasons□  6. Prefer to work and earn□   7. Any other  ---------

Changes: Areas
150. List out the social changes that you have experienced in the last fifteen years. …
   i. Economical .................................................................
   ii. Educational ..............................................................
   iii. Customs &Culture ......................................................
   iv Religion .................................................................
151. Tick the areas which the social change took place in your colony.
   a. Community development□
   b. Housing □
   c. Education □
   d. Moral and Ethical life □
   e. Health care □
152. What are the influences of the following on social change in your colony?
1. Education ..............................................................
2. Urbanisation ............................................................
3. Deforestation ............................................................
4. Globalisation ...........................................................

Changes: Causes
153. What do you think the major causes for the social changes?

154. Check the programs introduced by the govt. or NGO's for the social changes.
   a. Education for the Scheduled Tribes
   b. Literacy program.
   c. Health Education
   d. Family planning
   e. Employment opportunities for the ST.
   f. Drinking water in the colony
   g. Sanitary facilities
   h. Drought and famine relief project
   i. Community Centre and shelters
   j. Assistance during natural disaster and calamities
   k. Any other

Changes: Religion
155. The socio-economic conditions of the people who are been converted to other religions from the traditional religion.

156. Do you think religion plays an important role in the social change of the people?
   1. Yes 2. No 3. I don't know

157. Religion hinders or promotes for the social change. 1. Hinder 2. Promote

Changes: Issues
158. The struggles and challenges faced by the people in your locality?
1. Landlessness
2. Famine
3. Exploitations (labour, property, job, sexual etc.)
4. Unemployment
5. Alcoholism/ drugs

6. Family problem

7. Lack of basic amenities

159. Does the child- labour practiced among the tribe? 1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □

Theory: Marxism
Exploitation
160. Do you feel exploited by others? 1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □
   If yes, by whom?
   1. Non- tribals □
   2. Govt. officers □
   3. Forest officers □
   4. Politicians □
   5. Traders □
   6. NGOs □
   7. Fellow tribals □
   8. Any other ----------------- □

161. Do you feel the following are there: 1. Labour Exploitation □
   2. Sexual Exploitation □
   3. Children Exploitation □
   4. Land Exploitation □
   5. Economic Exploitation □
   6. Any other ----------------- □

162. Do you have own land? 1. Yes □  2. No □
163. Did you sell or lost the land for last 20 years. 1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □
164. Average daily wage of 1. Men .......... 2. Women ........
165. What will you do, if your masters / boas is not paying your wage?
   1. Unitedly go and strike □
   2. Personally go and fight □
   3. Silently withdraw □
   4. Give police complaint □
   5. Any other ----------------- □
166. Is there are any revolt incidences against oppressors in the past?
   1. Yes □  2. No □  3. I don’t know □
167. What are basic problems in your colony and give your suggestions to solve? ---------
Appendix -2

Photos

Field Research Experience

Food Habit of Paniyas

Paniyas in Agriculture

Paniyas in Agriculture

Bring Commodities from Town

Prepared to go Sabarimala
Kulithara

Priest and Temple of Paniyas

Stone Fetish of Paniyas

Paniyan priest at his ritual work

Paniyan priest during ritual
A Paniya Family

Modern House with RCC Roof

Drop out Children

Hut House

A modern house

Panivan women in her ornaments
A Paniyan woman in her traditional attire

A Paniyan woman in her traditional dress

Paniyan woman in her modern dress

Paniyan patients expecting magico - religious treatment
Paniya Dance

Collection of Fire Wood
Valliyoorkavu Temple

Paniya Farmer

Paniya Theyyam

Paniya Musical Instrument
Hunting & Fishing Snares

Weapons & Implements

Tribal Residential School
### Appendix -3
STATE PRIMARY CENSUS ABSTRACT FOR INDIVIDUAL SCHEDULED TRIBE -2001 PANIYAN

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<th>Sl. No.</th>
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### Deployment of Paniya Population in Kannur District

#### Panchayath, Block, Colony/ Family Details

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#### Paniya Population in Kannur District

- **Total**: 204
- **Male**: 4616
- **Female**: 7136
- **Converted**: 7007

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