

The System of Governance in a Primitive Tribal Community: The Case of Konda Reddys in Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT Konda Reddys are identified as one of the primitive tribal groups in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The study is intended (i) to discern the political structure and organization of the Konda Reddys, (ii) to examine the degree of control exerted by the traditional system of governance on the Konda Reddys and (iii) to describe how the traditional political system of the Konda Reddys has integrated politically with the regional and national politics. The principal of organisation in the case of Konda Reddys is based on territorialism and genealogical units. The chief is assisted by a body of officials which function in a democratic way in checking the deviant behavior of the people concerned and the customary law has defined various categories of disputes and varying rates of fines within the range of maximum and minimum. Further, the settlements of Konda Reddys are linked with the entire state as well as national political network. The Panchayat Raj system exists as separate system independent of the traditional political system.