CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICES IN SALEM

Dr. R. Dhanabal, Assistant Professor In History Wing, Directorate Of Distance Education, Annamalai University, 608 002.

- > To understand origin and development of Religions in tamil Nadu particularly in salem region.
- > To understand and critically analyses Practices are empowered by all the rekigion in Salem.
- > To identify the beliefs and practices of Hindus, Christaians, Islam, Sikh and Jain Communities in Salem district.
- > To broadly sketch the emergence and development of these religious traditions over time in Salem.

INTRODUCTION

The city Salem, the Head quarters of Salem Didtrict , Tamil Nadu is located in the interior part of Tamil Nadu and situated centrally between the state head quarters of the many southern states of our country. This is located in the center of city of Bangalore and city of Pondicherry. These cities are located at a distance of Two hundred kilometers in the eastern and western direction respectively. Religion is the set of thinking approach, dogma and practices that it defines the relations between human being and God. religion is defined by specific elements of a community of believers, worship sacred books dogmas, , sacrament, , rites, , sacrament, moral prescription, interdicts, organization ,interdicts,. The popular of religions in the world have developed starting from a exposure based on the fantastic history of a nation, of a prophet or a wise man who taught an ideal of life. Like our tamil nadu ,The Salem is a land of diversities. These diversities is also noticeable in the sphere of religion. The major religions of Salem are Hinduism , Islam , Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism Faith.

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES OF HINDUS IN SALEM

Ceremonies, celebrations, rituals, fairs, festivals, in Hindu religion of Salem are aspects which assist the protection of customs. These help the society to be self conscious, purposive, united, , and prosperous and progressive. These are the fairs and festivals of salem city unity and integration could be achieve amongst the populace of different components of a society. On the basis of Hindu religion and doctrine behind the people they are to be understood to estimate the cultural heritage of Tamil nadu.

- Fairs and festives pave the way for the foreword of customary practice in the religion.
- Fairs and festivals are as sacred as the Hindu religion itself in Salem City. Fairs and festivals stand for ceremonies and observations.

The people of Salem have the check and steadfast faith over the adoption of specific rituals based on the religion which bring about wonderful consequences in this money-oriented world. To increase the grace

of God by in ¹the way of appeasing him the people conduct various rituals and festivals in Salem.

Every individual in Salem observe ritual and participate in fairs and festivals with the belief that they will do him good. They are also tradition oriented. Powerful devotion towards These gods in Hindu religion and religion paved the way for the conduct of rituals and festivals.

Hence in Salem many rituals are included in the day to day life of the individuals of Hindus as observances of religious practices. City of Salem has perhaps the largest number of Hindus celebrations every year. Most of the temple festivals take place during September to October and in the post-harvest months of March to June. The duration of each festival is from three to ten days more. The deities of trhe Hindus are draped in colorful bright costumes and adorned with valuable and rare items of jewellery of the distant past. The deities in the Hindu Temples in Salem is mounted on specially constructed mounts called 'Vahanam' and taken round the temple in processions.

Muslims

In the Region of Salem like all countries certain sacred practices and rituals are very important to the Muslims. Muslims are a significant way that followers of Religion of Islam remember history, express conviction, and grow in devotion. Certain rituals are practiced daily by the muslim community in the salem region, like prayer others are practiced annually, like those aligned with specific Islamic holiday. The religious practices and rituals of Muslims are relatively few in number, but great in importance. The Five Pillars of Islam are five practices regarded by all sects of the Islamic religion as essential to the Muslim faith.

MUSLIMS

In the history of Islam religion, Islam is a religion that is approximately 1,400 years old, having been founded by Muhammad in the 600's A.D. Muhammad's teachings were complied after he died by his followers and makeup the sacred text for Muslim, called the Quran. In the the beginning of the 21st century. Islam is one of the largest religions in the world

Practices of Christians in salem

Practices of Christians in Salem Region vary by denomination, but general elements include the Sunday worship ⁶ service, private and corporate prayer, study and reading of the Scriptures, and participation in rites such as baptism and communion. Services in the Churches in Salem generally include prayer, singing, and a sermon. Most churches in Salem have a special ritual for ordination, or to designate a person fit for a management position in the church. In Salem Christians home, most working Christians pray regularly and many read the Bible.

In Salem Many Christians will have been baptized, either as an infant or as an adult, and regularly participate in communion. Baptism and communion are considered sacraments, sacred rituals instituted by Christ himself. The Church of Catholic recognizes five additional sacraments, as well as many other

distinctive practices that are known as 'devotions ' and include praying the rosary and going on pilgrimages.

The Distinctive Catholic practices ⁸ in Salem include recognition of seven number in total sacraments, Sunday mass, devotion to the Virgin Mary and the saints, and veneration of relics and places associated with holy figures. Eastern Orthodoxy holds many practices in common with Catholicism, but is especially distinguished by the central role of icons: ornate images of Christ and the saints believed to provide a connection to the spiritual world.

Bible Reading, 'the Followers of the Christian religion have been studying the Bible for millenniums'. At its most basic level, studying the Bible involves reading it understanding what God is saying through the writer of the text, and considering how it applies to life today. Bible study can be approached in numerous ways, according to individual churches as well as Christian denominations.

Starting ,when the Bible was written on ancient papyri to free Bible studies that are found online, Christians have always been intensely interested in what the Bible says, believing that is God's word to them. While it's true that at certain points in history some church leaders discouraged Christians to study the Bible on their today, this is practice is rarely found today.

Today, Christians study the Bible on their own, but it's also common to meet in fellowship groups to do Bible studies that are either led by a person or a book that guides them in their study.

CONCLUSION

In the Region of Salem ,Tamil Nadu the Fairs and festivals of all region like Hinduism, Islam, Christianity,Sikhs,and Jains 's celebrations ,ceremonies, and rituals are the various aspect ,they help the protection of customs of all religion. Then these help all the societies in Salem to be nature conscious, unified, purposive, and their prosperousness and progressive in all matters . By the religious practices and fairs and festivals of all the religion in Salem Region integration and unity could be achieve amongst the people of different religion of the society in Salem . Religious Practices and Principles of all religion behind people they are to be unspoken to estimate the cultural heritage of Salem. Fairs and festivals and the rituals of all religion in Salem lay concrete on the way for the opening of customary practices. Fairs and festivals and the rituals are as sacred as the religion itself. Fairs and festivals and the rituals position for ceremonies and observations. The people of all the religion in Salem have the stem and stanch faith over the adoption of specific rituals which bring about wonderful consequences in this money-oriented People. So, to increase the grace of God by way of pacific them the people of all religion in salem perform rituals in various fields and festivals. Every follower in all religion in Salem observes rituals and participates in fairs and festivals with the belief that they will do him good.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- ❖ Administrative Report. Salem Municipal Corporation 2016-17.
- ❖ Arokiaswamy. M. in The Kongu Country, University of Madras.
- ❖ Arokiyaswamy, M. The Kongu Country, University of Madras 1956. Administrative Report. Salem Municipality, 1982-83

- Berreman, Gerald 1963 Hindus of the Himalayas. Berkeley. University of California Press.
- ❖ Brinda ,1972 Peasant Society in Kongu Regionku.
- ❖ Chattopadhyaya, Brajadulal (2009). A Social History of Early India. CSC and Pearson Education.
- Claus, Peter 1973 Possession, Protection and Punishment as Attributes of Deities in a South Indian Village.
- ❖ Edward Harper, Ed. Seattle University of Washington Press.
- ❖ Furer-Haimendorf, Christoph von 1967 Morals and Merit: A Study of Values and Social Controls in South Asian Societies. Chicago University of Chicago Press.
- ❖ Harper, Edward,1959 A Hindu Village Pantheon. Southwestern Journal of Anthropology 15(3):227-234.
- * Kanchan Sinha, Kartikeya in Indian art and literature, Delhi: Sundeep Prakashan.
- ❖ Kolenda, Pauline ,1964 Religious Anxiety and Hindu Fate. In Religion in South India. Edward Harper.
- ❖ Pillai, K. Mahadevan, and D. Narayanan Namboothiri 1972 Caste, Status and Fertility in a Rural Area of Tamil Nadu. Bulletin of the Gandhigram
- ❖ Ponnuswamy Chettiar N.P, Salem Kovai, Rasipuram 1978...
- Punkuntan, R. Salem; Department of Archaeology, Government of Tamil Nadu. 1979.
- * Ritual Pollution as an Integrator of Caste and Religion. In Religion in South India.
- Sastri, K.A.N. A History of South India.
- ❖ Satyanatha Iyer B.; History of the Nayakas of Madurai. Oxford University press. 1924.
- ❖ Sharma, Ursula.1973 Theodicy and the Doctrine of Karma.
- ❖ Swamynatha Iyer, U.V. Purananuru; Madras.1923.