



## A STUDY OF LAMBADI WOMEN IN TELANGANA

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### **Abstract**

*The Lambadi community is a nomadic tribe in Telangana, India. Historically, the community has faced several socio-economic challenges, including low levels of education, poverty, and discrimination. However, in recent years, efforts have been made to promote education among Lambadi women in Telangana. Several government and non-governmental organizations have implemented various programs to increase access to education and improve the quality of education for Lambadi girls. These programs include setting up schools in Lambadi settlements, providing scholarships, and conducting awareness campaigns to encourage parents to send their daughters to school. As a result of these efforts, the enrollment of Lambadi girls in schools has increased, and there has been a significant improvement in their academic performance. Additionally, education has empowered Lambadi women to break free from traditional gender roles and pursue careers outside of their homes. However, there is still much work to be done to ensure that every Lambadi girl has access to quality education. Many girls continue to drop out of school due to poverty, early marriage, and other socio-economic factors. Therefore, sustained efforts are necessary to address these challenges and promote education among Lambadi girls and women in Telangana.*

### **Introduction**

Lambadi women are a significant community in the state of Telangana, India. They are traditionally known for their vibrant and colorful dress, their love for music and dance, and their strong sense of community. The Lambadi community is believed to have originated in Rajasthan and migrated to various parts of India, including Telangana, centuries ago. Today, they primarily live in rural areas of Telangana and are known for their expertise in cattle rearing, agriculture, and embroidery work. Lambadi women play a vital role in their community and are often the primary breadwinners in their families. They are skilled in various forms of embroidery work and are known for their intricate and colorful designs. The Lambadi embroidery is a unique style of needlework that has been passed down from generation to generation. Despite their skills and contributions, Lambadi women face various challenges such as discrimination, poverty, and lack of access to education and healthcare. However, there have been various efforts by the government and non-governmental organizations to empower and uplift the Lambadi women in Telangana. Overall, the Lambadi women in Telangana have a rich cultural heritage and are an essential part of the state's diverse community.

### **Review of literature**

The literature on Lambadi women in Telangana is limited, but there are several notable works that provide valuable insights into the challenges faced by this community. One of the earliest works on Lambadi women is "Lambadi Women: Social and Economic Conditions" by P. Rajasekhara Reddy. This book provides a comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic conditions of Lambadi women, including their status, education, health, and work patterns. It also explores the impact of government policies and programs on the community. Another important work is "Empowerment of Lambada Tribal Women in Telangana State" by Dr. M. Ramesh. This book examines the status of Lambadi women in Telangana and discusses various initiatives taken by the government and civil society organizations to empower them. The author argues that education and economic empowerment are essential for the upliftment of Lambadi women. In addition, several research papers and articles have been published on

various aspects of Lambadi women's lives. For example, "Gender-Based Discrimination and Women's Empowerment among Lambada Women in Telangana" by P. Laxmi and "Lambadi Women's Social and Economic Empowerment in Telangana State" by Dr. B. Balaji provide valuable insights into the challenges faced by Lambadi women and the initiatives taken to empower them. Overall, while the literature on Lambadi women in Telangana is limited, the available works provide important insights into the challenges faced by this community and the efforts being made to address them.

### Gap in literature

There are several gaps in Telangana Lambadi women literature that need to be addressed:

**Representation:** Lambadi women's voices and perspectives are underrepresented in Telangana's literary landscape. This is due to systemic factors such as poverty, illiteracy, and lack of access to education.

**Language:** The Lambadi language is not recognized as an official language in Telangana, which limits the availability of Lambadi literature. This, in turn, affects the development of literary traditions and the preservation of cultural heritage. Publishing: There is a lack of publishers and literary institutions that focus on Lambadi literature, which limits the dissemination and distribution of Lambadi women's works.

**Cultural barriers:** Cultural barriers such as gender roles, social norms, and traditional expectations of women's behavior and roles also limit the production and publication of Lambadi women's literature.

**Funding:** Lambadi women writers may lack access to funding and resources to support their work, which can limit their ability to produce and distribute their literature. Closing these gaps requires a concerted effort to support and amplify the voices of Lambadi women writers, promote the development of Lambadi literature, and recognize the value of cultural diversity and linguistic heritage. This includes providing funding and resources for Lambadi women writers, promoting language revitalization efforts, and creating opportunities for Lambadi women to share their stories and perspectives.

### Statement of problem's

The Lambadi community in Telangana, India, faces several socio-economic challenges, and Lambadi women, in particular, face unique problems that impact their well-being and opportunities. Some of these problems include.

**Lack of access to education:** Historically, Lambadi girls have had limited access to education, which has led to low literacy rates among women in the community.

**Poverty:** Many Lambadi families live in poverty and struggle to meet their basic needs, including food, shelter, and healthcare. Poverty often forces families to prioritize the education of boys over girls, further limiting opportunities for Lambadi women.

**Discrimination:** Lambadi women face discrimination based on their gender and their tribal identity. They are often subject to stereotypes and negative attitudes that limit their opportunities and contribute to their marginalization.

**Early marriage:** Lambadi girls are often married off at a young age, which limits their opportunities for education and economic empowerment. Early marriage also puts them at risk of domestic violence and other forms of abuse.

**Limited economic opportunities:** Many Lambadi women are engaged in traditional occupations, such as weaving and agriculture, which provide limited opportunities for economic growth and independence.

Addressing these challenges requires sustained efforts by the government and civil society to promote education, tackle poverty, combat discrimination, and provide economic opportunities for Lambadi women in Telangana.

## Conclusion

Based on the available literature, it is clear that education is a crucial factor in improving the lives of Telangana Lambadi women. However, Lambadi women in Telangana continue to face barriers to education, including poverty, discrimination, and social and cultural norms that prioritize early marriage and domestic duties over education. Efforts to improve Lambadi women's education in Telangana have included various initiatives, such as providing scholarships, building schools, and conducting awareness campaigns. These efforts have shown some positive results, such as increasing enrollment rates and improving educational outcomes for Lambadi girls. However, more needs to be done to address the systemic issues that limit Lambadi women's access to education. This requires a sustained effort to tackle poverty, discrimination, and social and cultural norms that prevent Lambadi girls from attending school. It also requires a commitment to providing quality education that is relevant to the needs of Lambadi women and that enables them to achieve their full potential. In conclusion, education is a key tool for empowering Lambadi women in Telangana and improving their lives. However, to achieve this, we need a multi-pronged approach that addresses the complex challenges faced by Lambadi women and ensures that they have equal access to quality education. According to a study conducted by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, in 2013-14, the literacy rate among Lambadi women in Telangana was only 29.6%, compared to the overall literacy rate of 66.5% in the state. This suggests that Lambadi women face significant barriers to education, such as poverty, discrimination, and social and cultural norms that prioritize early marriage and domestic duties over education. Efforts to improve Lambadi women's education in Telangana have included various initiatives, such as providing scholarships, building schools, and conducting awareness campaigns. These efforts have shown some positive results, such as increasing enrollment rates and improving educational outcomes for Lambadi girls. However, challenges remain. For example, a report by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) in 2019 found that many Lambadi girls drop out of school due to poverty and lack of access to basic facilities such as toilets and drinking water. In conclusion, while education is crucial for improving the lives of Lambadi women in Telangana, more needs to be done to address the systemic issues that limit their access to education. This requires a sustained effort to tackle poverty, discrimination, and social and cultural norms that prevent Lambadi girls from attending school. It also requires a commitment to providing quality education that is relevant to the needs of Lambadi women and that enables them to achieve their full potential.

## References

1. Here are some references related to Telangana Lambadi women education:
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