

ABSTRACT

Traditional games and sports have been recognized as a significant part of the nation's socio-cultural heritage. In today's perspectives on global integration, society mostly depends on the preservation of cultural diversity. So far, the researcher discussed the various games played in the North Bengal region. The researcher intends to focus on how the game reflected the culture of the area. The lifestyle of the people generally developed according to the natural atmosphere of the region. We find how the people's unsophisticated simple lifestyle is reflected in the simple mode of games played in the area. Most of the traditional games and sports, expressions of indigenous cultures and ways of life, contributing to the common identity of humanity, which has already disappeared, and those that are surviving are threatened of imminent disappearance and extinction, under the combined effect of globalization and harmonization of the rich diversity of world's sports heritage.

The study was strictly confined to the historical-geographical and demographical evolution. However, the researcher had to touch on the political history of India to be the most factual and pointed to the context of my thesis. Every up and down in the Indian socio-politics not only affects life and culture but affects the demographical situation of North Bengal in particular. It is obvious that for the proper understanding of the content. It is the first necessity to acquaint the readers with the geography, demography, and historical profile of North Bengal. Thus it is obvious that the Researcher would like to discuss more critically the link between play, sports games, and culture, it shows how they

not only interlink with one another, but they jointly contribute to shaping the growth of the region in particular and society in general.

Researcher has discussed the features of games in a general context and their significance in society. The study of the scholars is available in the field and gives a comprehensive account of the game theories, as well as different genres of games, based on its game plan, covering physical and mental involvement. To assert its role in the sports culture of North Bengal, the researcher overview North Bengal's traditional games and sports supported by ample examples. Moreover, along with it, the Researcher focused on different contextual functions of the games referring to in the context of the purpose. Thus researcher necessarily discussed the historical perspective of how various local games played in North Bengal and how with time. There were changes in the mode of the games and gradually got more discipline. That is the game technically converted into sports but having roots in origin. In this context, we have seen the commonness of games played in different countries by varied races, which don't differ much in spirit and even in forms. Thus folklore, played as referred to in different places, is no exception from the game *Teesta Buri Game, Madan Kam Game, Dodhikado Game*. In the case of other divisions, we can safely quote *Danguli Game, Guli Game, Kith Kith Game, Dariabanda Game, Gollachut Game*, naturally comes under the definition of above mention historians and sociologists.

Researcher has focused on the origin of traditional games of North Bengal and discussed the socio-cultural significance of such games. It deals with one of the core hypotheses of the study that games should not be considered in them and hence, has the power to reflect different phases of the societies in which they are carried on. However, it's not so easy to

find out the original social context of a game; because games are one of the most archaic features that accompany human civilization. The huge gap in time and space makes the origin of the game more confusing. The only thing that can be helpful to know their origin is the games themselves. Through analyzing and scrutinizing these games minutely, we can arrive at their original socio-cultural and sacred background.

Before this study, research on traditional games within North Bengal, particularly of the traditional games, sports, and amusements, as it is with many parts of the world, had to a great extent been preserve and influenced by theoretical traditions and practices. It is this perspective. This research was done to identify, describe and document the traditional games of North Bengal based on the rules that controlled them, facilities, and equipment used to their significance to the individuals and the society as well as the socio-cultural settings within which they lived. Fifty traditional games were identified through field studies. Respondents of Seventy years above were purposively identified and interviewed. They were sampled through the non-probability, purposive, sequential sampling method. All the data and information collected were examined, compared, and classified following specific standards with historical significance. Games were performed within the community's family homesteads, with the peers and significant others playing a major role in teaching them.

The study of the scholars available in the field, and giving a comprehensive account on the game theories, as well as different genres of games, based on its game plan, covering physical and mental involvement. To assert its role and attempt to take an Overview of North Bengal's traditional games with ample examples along with their different contextual functions of the games referred to in the context to our purpose.

Measures would be taken that involve education, incorporating them in texts and academic curriculum, popularizing them through modern technological developments as well as creating forums for public participation. Prosperous health through these games would significantly reduce health-care costs and increase production as well as allowing people to practice their cultural activities. The literacy and lack of awareness can easily be counted by the common method of traditional games, sports, and amusements. The recent success of Olympic and National Games Smt. Swapna Barman and few others from the rural belt in North Bengal will certainly support my contention that the spontaneity of traditional games can certainly lead to the crowing success for the children. The study may help to transmit a positive experience to the new generation and also help to increase the interest in traditional games in society as a whole.