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MAVILAN

A TULU SPEAKING COMMUNITY



The Mavilan are a Scheduled Tribe of Kerala, India. They inhabit the hill country of the Kannur and Kasaragod districts, where they were traditionally hunter-gatherers and practised shifting cultivation. In recent times, their way of life has been affected by regulation of forest areas and by incursion of non-tribal communities.

The Mangalam Kali is a traditional dance performed by the tribe, as is the Theyyam.

mavilan word originating from mavilavu ' a herb where mavilans were traditionally using herb medicines. Mavilans were known as MERA(R)s , a word originated from tulu language. and tulu is widely using by people of the norhern part of kerala compring south canara is known as TULUNADU.

MAVILANS are habitants of the Kannur district. They are seen in the Vayakara, Thadikadavu, Padyoor, Kalliat, Nidyanga and envessy Amsoms of Thaliparamba Taluk. They speak Tulu and have a good talking knowledge of Malayalam. The Mavilans are divided into two distinct groups

known as Tulumans and Chingattans. They speak Tulu and have a good talking knowledge of Malayalam. They use Malayalm script for written communication. Land is the major economic resource, which is controlled by individual proprietors. Traditional occupations of the community are collection and vending of medicianal plants, basket makinng and farm labour. Their primary occupation is agriculture. They are also engaged in animal husbandry, petty business, government/private service and agricultural labour. The Mavilan community members profess Hinduism. They worship Virabadra as their community deity. They also worship Siva, Bhagwati and Vishnu. According to the 2011 census, their population can be estimated to be 14,972.