

The Effect of Modern Songs on Folk Marriage Songs : A Case Study among Bhil Mina

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Abstract

In India every community have their own way of living and the different and unique culture. Bhil Mina is a tribal community in Rajasthan and they comes under category of Schedule tribes. They have their indigenous culture and their way of livelihood is totally different from other communities. Wedding is a great event among them. It shows everything about marriage, social obligations, kinship bonds, traditional values, emotional, sentiment and economic aspects of the society. The marriages represents transformation of social structure in a dramatic way. Their customs, costumes, rituals, food and family system, ornaments, marriage system are totally different. In the past they are very poor and excluded by the mainstream society but in the present era they are highly educated and working in government and private sectors. They are influencing by the popular culture and adopting very fast. The young generation of this community don't want to follow their tradition and try to live in modern culture. By the adopting modern culture they are forgetting and destroying their own indigenous culture. This can be seen as the negative impact of the new and modern technology. This study try to find out the role of Hindi film songs on the traditional marriages songs among Bhil Mina community. The main focus of this research is to find out the effect of modernization in social changes and the internal transformation of their tangible and intangible culture among Bhil Mina community. This is very contradictory thing that is that the modernization and new technology is playing the positive or negative impact on their culture.

Keywords: Impact, modernization, popular song, tradition, marriage, tribal community.

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INTRODUCTION: Culturally India is a big and very rich country in the world. Marriages take place with common concerned of different communities. Wedding is one of the biggest touching moment of life in India. Marriage is a formation of a relationship between two families. In Hindu marriage system bride's family gives and the groom's family plays the role of a receiver. This is a portion of rites of the passageway. Hindu religion has many cast and communities and they have diverse marriage styles and practices. The culture of villages virtually different from urban culture.

In several parts of India we can find the diversities of rituals related with marriage. In Hindu mythology songs play a vitalrole in daily and spiritual life. Music is recognized as the worldwide media to express our internal feelings. Music plays a big role in marriages among urban as well as in rural areas. The content of songs among rural areas differ from community to community and it based on caste to caste. Marriage is a social exercise with the addition of songs, dances and rituals etc. Songs play a vigorous role in society since the ancient and when we talk about marriages, it's an unavoidable part of the gorgeous ritual. They presents feelings and gratification at time of wedding for every families. These songs have many social and cultural hiddenmessages in India. Indian culture has always highlighted the values of ethics. Marriage in India is a biggest ceremony. It is a social responsibility to the community and the family.

The collection of folksong among Bhil Mina tribes is huge. On the occasion of every ritual there is song sung by them. This study focused on that is the modern era of globalization has affected the style of marriage in this community. If it has affected then what is the new changes, how far it changes and what the new style now practicing in marriages. Form the beginning of the first day of relations are made the songs starts. *Baraat* and *Fahre* are most noteworthy occasion in marriage. On both of time women sings many type of folksong related to marriage, deities and many songs also targeted to some relation.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To know the effect of globalization on the style of marriages in Bhil Mina community

To identify the role of Hindi cinema or Bollywood songs in marriages.

AIM OF THE STUDY

The main aim of the study is to critically analyze the enduring social changes & the responses of common men about social issues in general.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY: This study is focused on the area of Bundi district of Rajasthan. It comes in Hadothi region. This region has been divided by local into some regions like *Taleti, Nagarchal, Pachwara, Malh, Dang* and *Aatari*. This is a common region in both urban and rural area.

Focus group discussion and participant observation have done among 20 families of Bhil Mina Community for the primary data collection. The personal interview have taken place to know the individual opinion on the changes and adoption of music and songs. The data was collected during the marriages in various families. The representative's chooses through purposive sampling method.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION: In the studies area, Bhil Mina caste is the most populated. This study focused on many social issues like dowry and remarriage. For example a song sung by women on the *Lagan* ceremony talks about four wheeler, which is gifted to the bridegroom by the bride's father ("Hehe *Mhro bhai ko sasuro tan lagan me bhej di gadi*"). Now-a-days marriages in villages have practiced many changes and modifications due to modernization and effect of contemporary musical instruments due to Hindi Cinema effect on masses. As it has been outcome the earlier they instruments are not modern and the technological sounds was not good, so the outline of loud speakers etc. has changed it dramatically.

Now the forms of singing and performing of these songs have transformed. The meaning of folk songs however can be understood in the term of repressed desire of women. But the appearance of popular Hindi film songs have removed platform for them. The respondent's responses about these changes according to same community people have diverse views. They were directed by economic factors as well as generation gap. The current changes in pattern of marriage also lead many social problem in village like money wasting on DJs and loud speaker, because during marriages they hire these instruments.

The Bollywoodization of these performs is very often a kind of chaos among the same community because of generation gap. The old age group people do not want to leave their

indigenous culture but the youth and new generation does not like the old traditions. The understanding of these folk traditions is a problem between the people in rural areas.

According to old generation, when young people hire DJs. They drink liquor and they dance in this process sometime they go out of control and do some unsocial things like rude, aggressive with others and ending procedure of marriage. So the old age people protects the traditional folk songs as permitting to them they are good, because these are sung by women and women in their community did not drink liquor so they are safe, harmless and full of amusement.

Helen Myers (1998) in her work '*Music of Hindu Trinidad: Songs from the India Diaspora*' also defines how the music of villages has been subjective by the beginning of film music records from India. However she worked in Trinidad Island on Indian Diaspora describes about the influence of filmy music on marriage folk songs.

In present times Hindi Film songs has several effects on these ritual and practices in rural area for example theme of songs has involved from the popular music from Bollywood. Many times these traditional folk songs are also reformed in films and in popular music industry. With the occurrence of Dish TV or satellite television film channels Bhil Mina community people can be seen the vital effect on them. Many people from the rural areas bring these songs in the form of audio and visual setup like CDs and DVDs. The influence of education and modernization among rural areas and villages has led to modification in various social performs. They are embracing urban practices by modifying them according to their social values.

Gloria Goodwin Raheja (1995) in his essay "Crying when she's born, and crying when goes away": marriage and the idiom of the gift in Pahansu song performance" communicated about the renovation of women identity as wife and daughter-in-laws and move from her native home to conjugal place. Edward O. Henry (1975) in his essay "North Indian wedding songs" explained all the relationship in songs and has explained the meaning and structure of these songs. Peter Manual (1991) highlights on the impact of cassette culture in north India popular music industry. To sustenance his interpretation he gave example of technology that how technology play a serious role to influence the mass. He focused on the technological progress in music industry.

The material history of Indian marriage structure can be seen in rural areas, where many rituals, events, and occasions took place during the weddings. The marriage procedure former did spread over a period of seven, five and three years. That time the barber or family Brahmin to the girls was responsible to find for an appropriate bridegroom. They did not find this in the same village or the same kinship village or *Gotra* village.

MAJOR FINDING OF THE RESEARCH: In the group discussion and interview various question were asked to fulfill the objectives of this study as why music is compulsory in marriages?, when the music is emerged?, what are the musical instruments are using in marriages?, what are the occasions and rituals in marriages? and when the song is sung?, what are the style and patterns of these traditional marriage songs?, how the modern music is influenced the local culture of marriages?, and what are the changes occurred due to modern music in marriage?.

The major findings are as, music is in their tradition that at every new beginning in the community they perform certain type of rituals and these rituals cannot be performed without songs of deities. So in weddings they also have many ceremonies to perform with songs sung by mostly women singers. Other reason for that mostly in the summer these people become free from different work. So they want to enjoy two months period and in these two months in summer they do marriages on the occasion on *Akshay tratiya* and *PeepalPurnima*. The music in marriages emerged from the beginning of the society it preserved by their ancestor that they were using so they are also following the same tradition. But they cannot trace the real origin of music. Basically folk music instruments are used while singing the songs in this category these can be included *Manjeere*, *Khurtals*, *Chari*, *Dol*, *Novet*, and *Chung*. *Manjeere* is very famous instruments among our community without them song are test less because they generate hard sound when played the rhythm is generate and the flow of songs is maintained. These songs can be sung only in group by women if they sung separate they cannot make any sense to anybody. While singing these song women dances also in grouping.

With Bollywood film songs and local *Rajasthani* album song mostly plays on DJs and loudspeakers. When CD and DVD player came the effect of modern music has begun in marriages. Television also play a vital role in influence the rural people and they always try to associate with popular culture. Mobile phone also have storage capacity to play song so many youth and teenagers playing Bollywood and album songs. Now these people also

becoming educated and they imitated the city tradition here in village also. So they call for DJs in marriages. On DJs they only play Bollywood Hindi, Punjabi and New Rajasthani songs which are latest released. Some people believe in village that the effect of film and television has spoil the culture of rural areas and those who are in government jobs firstly they adopt the modern music in marriages and then other people imitate them. Modern music changed many rituals like *Toran*, *Chauk* and *Bhat*, and *Galias*. People are giving more importance to modern music because it does not need group to sing a song. The machine has taken the place of human voice. Social relations also affect like earlier one of family member used to call for singing these rituals songs and folksong but now they play on DJs, DVD & CD player and pen drive with loudspeakers.

The effect of modern music among local marriages is not occurred suddenly. It increases in last 10 years. The implement in technology of communication like mobile phone, pen drive is the one of reason to affect the villages' marriages. Most of the participant said that the effect of modernization in marriage is threat to traditions and rituals. Many rituals have been disappeared from marriages. Marriages are becoming sort because earlier marriage ceremony used to go for 4-5 days. The *Baraat* used to stay at bride house for 2 or 3 days. It was a kind of making relationship among two villages. But now the *Baraat* only stay for 2 to 3 hours. The participant said that there two reason of that one is that people are not free from their works and second is that when dance with DJs and loudspeaker. Many youth take too much liquor most of them fight and abuse other so people do not allow to *baraat* to stay more at bride place due to social security. When *baraat* reaches it became late because of DJs. *Baraat*'s dances late night so the food and the management of bride side unbalance. Food goes wastage sometime. It cost the money and time also.

The Bhil Mina community tries to stop this social degradation. They can only imposed fine but nobody cares about fine because most of Bhil Mina pays fine easily. Some of Bhil Mina are in government jobs so they are earning money. If somebody is not in government job then he will arrange DJs and all modern instruments in marriage on basic of agriculture income. Because bride family give them dowry so they have to spend money in marriage. The Bhil Mina community passes a rule that if somebody goes with DJs to marry then he has to pay fine of rupees twenty one thousand to the community. Why they are not following rules of community because if somebody is going marry with DJ. The DJ cost around 30 to 40 thousand rupees for one day. Rich families can pay fine. Those are not able to pay fine they can play songs on DVD and CV player.

There are many occasion in a marriage on that time songs are sung by women in group as

Occasion / ritual	Song types
<i>Sagai</i>	Simple and formal
<i>Lagn</i>	God Ganesh's songs
<i>Ladi (Bani)</i>	These songs are sung in the house of bride and these are only related and narrated the folk stories about bride and his family members.
<i>Lada(Bana)</i>	These are same like <i>Ladi</i> type of songs but these are sung only for bride groom.
In both type of songs local deities song always sung and these all songs sung by only women.	
<i>Tel keGeet</i>	These are the songs which are sung before three days of marriage. Basically god and goddesses songs.
<i>Chaukand Bhat</i>	When maternal uncle of bride and bride groom comes at the house at his sister to present cloth and participant in marriage. This is happened both side simultaneously. Then women sing the song for maternal uncle welcome.
<i>Nakasi of Baraat</i>	These songs are very vulgar and sung only the time when <i>Baraat</i> ready to go to bride house for <i>Fahre</i> .
<i>TorankeGeet</i>	At the time of entry in brides' house by bride grooms. Women abuse the bride groom and his friends.
<i>Fahrekegeet</i>	These song are only devoted to god and goddess like <i>Shiv, Parvati, Gora</i> etc.
<i>Tutya</i>	These are very vulgar song with drama at the house of bride groom's women; they perform different characters with singing and dancing.
<i>Vidaikegeet</i>	When bride is going to in-low house.
<i>Badava</i>	When bride comes at in-lows house first time then women celebrate.
<i>Rat jaga</i>	Women sing song whole night after <i>Badava</i> .
<i>Magni</i>	Only abusive and vulgar songs.

CONCLUSION

This paper highlighted the impact of Hindi film songs on the traditional folk pattern of marriages among Bhil Mina community. Hindi cinema has effected not Indian society but it has also effected on Indian social phenomena.

Bhil Mina are a tribal community resided in eastern Rajasthan. The raising of this community has been noticed in national level due to education improvement. And the impact of Hindi Film songs can be seen directly on them. Even though their rich folk tradition also exist similarly. Mainly the modernization and technology play an important and positive role in each community but in the case of marriage songs the effect of modernization and the new technology is totally negative and going to destroy their own indigenous cultural value system.

The most of marriage parties has noticed the changed. According to the respondents the different folk customs and tradition are dying with effect of modernization. Marriage has also influenced with modern music like *Bollywood* songs and new Rajasthan mixed songs and even songs has different type of culture. Some of them try to identify with new changed but some apposed earlier but now they have accepted.

After doing this analysis the conclusion comes that the old marriage practices in Bhil Mina community have been seen major changes. Music plays an effective role to motivate people and imitate higher culture among village people. The earlier form of music has less importance because effect of popular cinema. They spend lot of money in marriages. Spending money has become status symbol among them.

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